FBIS DAILY REPORT

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STATE OF SIEGE DECREE, RELATED EVENTS REPORTED

PY251747 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1647 GMT 25 Oct 85

[Text] [Buenos Aires, 25 Oct (TELAM)] -- This afternoon, Govervment House released Decree 2069 whereby the executive branch declares the state of siege throughout the country for 60 days, beginning today.

The text of the decree follows:

Since the situation that was to be brought under control by Decree 2049/85 persists, and the different interpretations of this decree by the judges make it impossible to duly maintain constitutional order, and considering:

That as stated in that decree, the constituted powers have the unavoidable obligation to implement all the constitutional and legal instruments and mechanisms to bring under control a situation of disturbance and unrest;

That as noted in Decree 2049, the executive branch has tried not to go to extremes in discharging that obligation so as not to unnecessarily impose on all the Argentine people -- entirely alien to those despicable purposes -- restrictions on their rights and freedoms;

That in view of the new and increasing acts of violence such as the indiscriminate planting of explosive devices, threats and intimidations that yesterday disturbed the normal activities in 49 elementary schools in the city of Buenos Aires, and other disturbances that create a state of destabilization, posing risks to the National Constitution and the authorities vested under its provisions, it becomes indispensable to adopt the most effective measures to immediately control the situation;

That therefore, and only in the face of this emergency, the executive branch, in a limited and temporary form, resorts to the exceptional measure of the state of siege provided for in Article 23 of the Constitution so that, while the nation's congress is in recess, it can restore the disturbed internal peace by halting the actions of these sectors, which have no representation but are highly dangerous, so that the benefits of freedom can be secured for everyone;

That this in no way implies restricting the rights and guarantees inherent to the electoral process currently under way for 3 November, for which there must be unrestricted respect for civic and political constitutional freedom that must be exercised in order to allow the full enjoyment of civic rights that have been definitely reinstated in Argentina;

That for this purpose it is appropriate to make use of the powers provided for in Article 86, Paragraphs 1 and 19 of the National Constitution as set forth in Article 23 of said Constitution.

Therefore the President of Argentina decrees:

Article 1. That the state of siege is hereby leveled throughout the national territory for a period of 60 days in order to put an end to the prevailing state of domestic disturbances.

Article 2. That without detriment to the necessary and reasonable measures required to implement this article, respect will be maintained for constitutional rights and guarantees, especially those that must be exercised in connection with the elections slated for 3 November, unless they jeopardize the stated objective of defending the Constitution.

Article 3. That the honorable National Congress be notified.

Article 4. It is so ordered.

Further on Decree

PY251649 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 25 Oct 85

[Statement from Interior Minister Antonio Troccoli from Government House -- live]

[Text] In view of the persisting and increasing escalation of violence that has been addressed in a previous decree, and taking into account the different judicial interpretations that tend to undermine the effectiveness of the measures adopted against such terrorist escalation and which consequently promote greater disturbances, thus altering peace and tranquility in the country, the executive branch has decided to declare a state of siege for a period of 60 days throughout the national territory. Expressed exception is made for political rights, such as the freedom of speech and the performance of activities inherent to the upcoming 3 November electoral campaign. This is to say that all the freedoms necessary for the activities of political parties regarding these elections are preserved, because the government intends to avoid restricting or hampering the normal electoral campaign. Consequently, the provisions of the new Decree No 2069 guarantee all freedoms and rights related to the electoral campaign and the 3 November elections.

Ministry Issues Communique

PY260132 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 2300 GMT 25 Oct 85

[Relay from government house by Silvina Martinez Porta]

[Text] The Interior Ministry has just issued an explanatory communique on the executive branch decision to impose the state of siege for 60 days throughout the country. The communique points out that the measure is aimed particularly at guaranteeing internal peace, the freedoms, the rights, and the invaluable gift of life against the actions of small groups which are not representative but which are highly dangerous.

The most important points of the communique are:

The state of siege will not distrub either the electoral campaign or the elections. Political parties can continue with their campaigns, disseminiating their ideas and proposals.

All rights are duly guaranteed. The right of assembly, the right of petition, the freedom of the press, etc., will not be affected.

Finally, the communique states that Argentine citizens should not fear that their routine activities will be affected. On the contrary, this extreme measure has been adopted to allow the citizens to continue with their routine activities and to strengthen constitutional order, the communique stresses.

Troccoli: Elections To Be Held

PY260129 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 2300 GMT 25 Oct 85

[Text] Upon announcing the executive branch's decision to impose the state of siege today, Interior Minister Antonio Troccoli said that the measure was adopted in view of the persistence and aggravation of violence, which the government had tried to counter with Decree 2049.

The minister added that the executive branch also took into account the different legal interpretations that could have defeated the action against this escalation of terrorism. Troccoli pointed out that the state of siege will not affect either political rights, the right of expression, or the activities of the upcoming election campaign. All the freedoms that parties must enjoy for their campaign will not be affected either, the minister added.

Troccoli flatly dismissed the possibility of postponing the 3 November elections, because they are an expression of the national will that confirms the democratic will of an overwhelming majority. He then added that in another decree, the executive branch simultaneously ordered that the 6 military men and 6 civilians who had been ordered arrested through Decree 2049 be placed at its disposal, on charges of jeopardizing state security. The minister pointed out that the decision was made on the basis of powers explicitly established in the Constitution and following an evaluation of the current circumstances and of situations that began in the past and worsened in the last few days.

The decree imposing the state of siege establishes that the constitutional rights and guarantees will remain in full force, particularly those necessary for the 3 November elections, provided they do not hinder the defense of the Constitution. Minister Troccoli pointed out that, in this judgment, Decrees 2069 and 2070 have ended the controversies or disagreements over the legal interpretation of Decree 2049.

Carranza Justifies Decree

PY260215 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2304 GMT 25 Oct 85

[Text] Buenos Aires, 25 Oct (TELAM) -- Argentine Defense Minister Roque Carranza was consulted this afternoon about the state of siege, and he said the government has a duty to maintain public order and peace, especially during the time before elections. He made this statement at the Buenos Aires metropolitan airport upon arriving from Bahia Blanca, where he visited Puerto Belgrano with Navy Chief of Staff Admiral Ramon Arosa. The minister said that nobody in the government is happy about having to adopt this kind of measure. When asked about the possible political costs of the decree, he answered that there would be none because the people in general repudiate and reject violent actions and threats.

Regarding his visit to Puerto Belgrano, he said that it had been interesting because he was able to check on the dedication and preparation of the forces there, who despite economic difficulties, were able to acquire technological improvements.

As for the so-called Magnesia operation by which the government supposedly decided to carry out a purge among high-level Army circles, he categorically stated that that rumor is false.

Decree 2070 Released

PY251848 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1701 GMT 25 Oct 85

[Text] Buenos Aires, 25 Oct (TELAM) -- Argentine Interior Minister Antonio Troccoli today announced that today's Decree 2070 provided for the arrest of the same individuals listed in Decree 2049. These people are charged with instigating activities that disturb public order. This ends the legal dispute about the constitutionality of these arrests, arising from different interpretations by judges.

Troccoli explained that the executive branch's formal declaration of the state of siege, in view of the recess of the Congress, has created a new situation. Troccoli explained that the national executive branch has decided to enact the state of siege in keeping with powers explicitly provided for in the National Constitution, after a careful evaluation of the circumstances and actions which have been occurring for a long time and which lately have increased markedly.

The interior minister told journalists "it is hoped that the legal dispute and conflict of interpretations will be resolved through the issuance of the decree. He added that the Supreme Court and the courts that have jurisdiction over the pleas for habeas corpus on behalf of the arrested people have been notified of the measure. Minister Troccoli added that Congress and the security organizations have also been notified about the measures so that they might take the necessary actions for the effective implementation of these decrees.

Herewith follows the text of Decree 2070:

Since the state of siege was declared in Decree 2069 of 25 October 1985, and considering:

That it is the government's fundamental responsibility to consolidate internal peace, ensure tranquility and public order, and preserve the permanent interests of the Republic.

That in the opinion of the executive branch, which is the only branch empowered to evaluate these cases, the activities of individuals involved in this decree are contrary to the aforementioned values.

That the executive branch has the power to dictate this measure by virtue of Article 23 of the Constitution.

Therefore, the President of the Argentine nation decrees:

Article 1. The following people are to be arrested and placed at the disposal of the executive branch: Colonel Pascual Oscar Guerrieri; Colonel Alejandro Agustin Arias Duval, retired; Major Jorge Horacio Granada; Captain Lepoldo Cao; Captain Osvaldo Rodolfo Antinori, retired; Mr Carlos Guillermo Suarez Mason, Mr Raul Jose Roberto Rivanera Carles, Mr Enrique Gilardi Novaro, Mr Daniel Horacio Rodriguez, Mr Jorge Antonio Vago, Mr Patricio Eugenio Maximo Camps, and Mr Rosendo Maria Fraga, Jr.

Article 2. The Defense Ministry and the Interior Ministry will adopt the necessary measures to implement Article 1.

Article 3. Pro Forma.

Carranza Accused of Terrorism

PY262339 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 1244 GMT 24 Oct 85

[Text] Resistencia, 26 Oct (CYN) -- Arturo Frondizi, president of the Integration and Development Movement [MID], and Abelardo Ramos, head of the Popular Leftist Front [FIP], have brought serious charges against a government minister, whom they accused of being an "expert at planting bombs," according to reports published today by the newspaper NORTE of this provincial capital.

Frondizi was quoted as saying: "This government has a minister who is an expert at planting bombs. He planted them in the times of Peron, and four people died. They are not going to silence me. I have been arrested several times, and one more arrest is not going to affect me."

The newspaper added that Ramos also stated that "the current Defense Minister (Roque Carranza) has a record of terrorism, because in a demonstration in the Plaza de Mayo during Peron's presidency, he was the perpetrator of an attack that caused four deaths." These two politicians are campaigning in this province for the legislative elections.

In another statement, Frondizi said: "I think conditions are now appropriate for governing without a state of siege, and the government will have to make public its reasons for implementing the state of siege." The FIP leader also expressed disagreement with the government's decision to establish the state of siege for 60 days, saying that "any terrorist act must be condemned, but I do not agree with the state of siege."

Siege Hides 'Clumsy Footwork'

PY261806 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 26 Oct 85 p 8

[Editorial: "State of Siege"]

[Text] Yesterday's declaration of a state of siege for the next 60 days is bound to stir unhappy memories in a population which only emerged from a nine-year state of siege less than two years ago and the most alarmed might even have started to wonder whether the 1983-1985 period is not doomed to go down in history as another brief parenthesis of constitutional government like the years between 1963 and 1966 or between 1973 and 1974. Nevertheless, the truth may well be less earth-shaking than the dramatic overtones of the phrase "state of siege" itself even though Interior Minister Antonio Troccoli did not go out of his way to defuse the situation with his portentous statements to the effect that the government had done all possible to counter the emergency without resorting to extreme measures but could not remain idle in the face of "growing violence" and bomb scares in no less than 49 primary schools.

Although raising this by no means phantom spectre might seem a lesser evil in the government's eyes than admitting to incompetence, there exists the suspicion in many minds that the state of siege was declared in a bid to cover up clumsy footwork in ordering the original 12 arrests, as Troccoli said in so many words when he spoke of "different legal interpretations." Both the criticisms of opposition politicians and the legal tactics of the 12 accused were pushing the situation inexorably in the direction of a state of siege quite independently of the tempo of the bomb campaign. The only legal precedent for arrests without trial or conviction under Article 23 of the Constitution while Rosendo Fraga's application for a free passage out of the country made explicit the exile option also contained in Article 23.

If these are the facts of the matter, if the government stumbled into a state of siege because of a couple of mistakes in naming the suspects and the acceptance of one habeas corpus writ, than it is a clear case of the tail wagging the dog. This in turn raises the question of whether the government should not have countered the terrorist wave from the outset with a state of siege rather than embarking on a series of piecemeal, improvised steps which implied one, for the sake of its own reputation as well as national security. The counter-argument to this school of thought would be that the easy way out should always be tried first in advance of more basic but extreme solutions (as more or less occurred on the economic front) because the alternative is to impose sacrifices which have not been proved to be necessary. But even if this argument is accepted, the government can still be faulted for not having done its homework properly before launching a counteroffensive on the narrow front it chose before yesterday.

Like most drastic measures, the state of siege declaration solves one set of problems, and creates another. Many of the legal obstacles which had emerged increasingly in the latter half of the week will now be removed by the explicit evocation of Article 23. But it leaves the government having to overcome problems of credibility if it is to rally the people behind it in this new stage of protecting democracy.

Over and above any criticisms of the government's handling of the crisis, the die has now been cast and government and people should support each other in the hope that the 60 days emergency ordered by the government is sufficient to end the terrorist threat to the national peace of mind. The government has already carried part of its side of the implicit bargain by promising not to allow the state of siege to affect the electoral campaign. It must now carry out the rest by restricting other rights as little as possible. And the people should rally behind its elected government without necessarily rubberstamping the Radical ticket in the upcoming elections, which are congressional and not, it should be remembered, presidential. The people's side of the bargain, in the final analysis, is that these elections should be genuinely free of any panic or pressure, even in the face of the present emergency.

CGT Urges Session of Congress

PY261912 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2357 GMT 25 Oct 85

[Text] Buenos Aires, 25 Oct (TELAM) -- The General Confederation of Labor [CGT] has asked the government to immediately call a special congressional session so that Congress can decide whether to approve the state of siege decreed by the executive branch. It also demanded the full names of those involved in the presumed plots.

This is included in a communique read by Saul Ubaldini at the end of a meeting of a few members of the CGT Board that was urgently called upon learning of the imposition of a state of siege. Ubaldini stated that the CGT is not against the executive branch's decision, but we do believe that Congress should make the final decision on a measure as serious as this. The interior minister must release the full names of the presumed plotters, because we (the CGT) will defend democracy, but we do not want to be discredited. Asked why he said this, he stated: Some newspapers have reported that a union member is included among the plotters, and so we demand that he be identified and that they not try to discredit a fellow worker, because the courts must try and, if necessary, punish whoever is against democracy.

Another reporter then asked whether the CGT supported Jorge Triaca's statement that the trial of the members of the former three government juntas was a circus. Ubaldini answered that the CGT had taken a position at the appropriate time, and added that Triaca's remarks must be taken as those of a politician who is a candidate for deputy and not those of a labor leader.

The CGT communique states that in view of the implementation of the state of siege throughout the nation through a decree issued by the executive branch, and given the seriousness of the decision because it directly and automatically suspends all constitutional guarantees, the CGT finds it necessary to reassert its position in the sense of demanding that the government immediately call Congress to a special session, in compliance with Article 86 of Paragraphs 12 and 67, and 26 of the National Constitution.

It adds that, whereas the National Congress is the branch of government with constitutional powers and natural jurisdiction to assess the causes that may authorize the implementation of such a serious measure such as a state of siege, and to approve or suspend the state of siege that was declared while it was in recess, the CGT reasserts the urgent need to immediately call a special session of Congress so that Congress may make the final decision, as a constitutional organ representative of the Argentine people and of all provinces of the nation, regarding the approval or suspension of the state of siege decreed by the executive branch.

The CGT communique adds that, considering the suspension of constitutional guarantees resulting from the state of siege, the national executive branch should by no means misuse its powers to curtail the rights of the workers and of the union organizations that represent them, considering the distressing socioeconomic situation we are suffering from more rigorously every day. The CGT communique then repeats in full the document released today as a resolution, which had been issued before the declaration of the state of siege.

Army Commanders Briefed

PY261041 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2235 GMT 25 Oct 85

[Text] Buenos Aires, 25 Oct (NA) -- General Mario Jaime Sanchez, the Army Deputy Chief of Staff, today presided over a meeting attended by 800 commanders, whom he briefed on the investigation that the executive branch ordered through Decree 2049 and which resulted in the arrest of several army officers. The briefing was held at the Libertador Building on orders of Army Chief of Staff General Hector Rios Erenu. Similar meetings were also held in army units throughout the country. It has been learned that General Sanchez may have briefed the commanders on the latest events involving the investigation ordered by the government. Sanchez reportedly said that the Army will respect the law strictly and that it rejects any action out of keeping with the duties inherent to each rank. After pointing out that the Army seeks to preserve its own image and the image of its members, Sanchez reportedly exhorted the commanders to discharge their duties within the law, without hindrances or commitments outside the Army. Sanchez also urged the commanders to respect the law. Concerning the investigations, he reportedly said that the military courts also will take action in connection with the Army members against whom the executive branch had placed charges. In this regard, more information was reportedly provided in a recent cable sent to Army units. It is believed that the cable has been read to all Army units.

Judge Rules Against Decree

PY251437 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1021 GMT 25 Oct 85

[Excerpt] Buenos Aires, 25 Oct (NA) -- Trial Judge Roberto Hornos has ordered the immediate release of Colonel Alejandro Arias Duval, retired, after accepting the plea for habeas corpus and has ruled the first and second articles of the executive branch's Decree 2049 unconstitutional. This decree ordered the arrest of Col Alejandro Arias Duval and 11 other people, accusing them of disturbing public order.

After mentioning the independence of the government branches as established by the Constitution, and pointing out that a stage of siege has not been declared, the judge asserted "the executive branch cannot be granted powers that it does not have, powers that it can only use under certain circumstances, when the constitutional guarantees are suspended, which is not the case at present."

This is the first time a court has ruled against the stipulations of presidential Decree 2049, and accepted the habeas corpus filed on behalf of one of the people detained in compliance with this governmental measure.

Trial Judges Martin Irurzun and Cesar Guiroga have rejected the petitions by the defense lawyers of Horacio Rodriguez, Rosendo Fraga, Rodolfo Antinori, Pascual Guerrieri, Jorge Ago, Rocardo Curutchet Raul Rivanera Carles, and Enrique Gilardi Novaro.

Decision Termed 'Illegal'

PY270141 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2317 GMT 26 Oct 85

[Excerpt] Buenos Aires, 26 Oct (TELAM) -- Judge Luis Velasco, who this morning declared unconstitutional executive branch Decree 2070/85, which imposed the state of siege and ordered the arrest of six civilians and six military men, today ordered the release of Colonel Pascual Guerrieri, Captain Leopoldo Cao, Major Jorge Granada, and Journalist Daniel Rodriguez. These decisions were appealed by the Argentine Government.

Radical Senator Fernando de la Rua informed TELAM of the government's decision to appeal Judge Velasco's decision after participating in a meeting in Government House chaired by Interior Minister Antonio Troccoli. De la Rua said that the Supreme Court will make the final decision.

Education and Justice Minister Carlos Alconada Aramburu, Interior Ministry Undersecretary Raul Galvan, Chief of the Secretariat of State Intelligence [SIDE] Hector Rossi, and ministry advisers participated in the meeting chaired by Troccoli. Before leaving Government House, Minister Alconada said that Judge Valasco is assuming powers which, according to the Supreme Court's doctrine, belong to the executive branch. Alconada defined Velasco's decision as interference in the powers of the executive branch after the imposition of the state of siege. Therefore, he said, we understand that Judge Velasco's decision is illegal.

Senator Blames 'Infiltrators'

PY280246 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 0114 GMT 28 Oct 85

[Text] San Miguel de Tucuman, 27 Oct (NA) -- Senator Adolfo Gass (Radical Civic Union, Buenos Aires) today said that the mistakes in the decree ordering the arrest of 12 persons were made because "we, too, have infiltrators in our office and sometimes the decrees or any other course of action must involve very few people, and mistakes are made that way." Gass also said that "the government knows very well the levels at which these agitators, these lunatics, are operating, and it is obvious that they are entrenched in various sectors of the nation."

The Radical Civic Union [UCR] senator made these remarks to the newspaper LA GACETA, which published them today. Gass stated that "the government has concrete evidence on the modus operandi of these groups, but because they have a great deal of money obtained through dishonorable and illegal means, it is easy for them to hire someone to throw around bombs and make telephone calls." Gass added that "it will be very difficult to overthrow this administration, because the citizens defend it," and he reaffirmed that "there is no doubt that there are different sectors seeking destabilization." He said: "They are fascists who do not know how to live in a democracy, people who were happy only during the military regime because they were free to carry out their deals, some of which were not strictly economic, and also because they had social standing."

He explained that "the Army realizes that the government is arresting the military for serious reasons, and the Armed Forces are perfectly well aware that among their ranks there are some who want to destabilize democracy." Gass concluded his statement to LA GACETA by saying that "those who criticize us know full well that they either have no votes or are about to lose the ones they have." He added that, "however, some political leaders say things that surprise me because considering their age and experience, they should know what the people feel."

Colonel Detained Again

PY252120 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2022 GMT 25 Oct 85

[Text] Buenos Aires, 25 Oct (NA) -- Colonel Alejandro Arias Duval, retired, was detained and is being held at a military unit in compliance with Decree 2070, which ordered that 12 persons charged by the government -- through decree 2049 -- with disrupting public order be detained. Arias Duval had first been detained in compliance with Decree 2049 but was freed last night when Trial Judge Roberto Hornos granted him a writ of habeas corpus.

Suarez' Extradition Requested

PY252223 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2135 GMT 25 Oct 85

[Text] Buenos Aires, 25 Oct (NA) -- Education and Justice Minister Carlos Alconada Aramburu today announced that he had taken steps to request the extradition of former officer Guillermo Suarez Mason, who is reportedly in the United States. Alconada Aramburu made the announcement at a press conference.

Trial Judges Order Releases

WA280930 [Editorial Report] Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish on 26 and 27 October reports the release of Captain Leopoldo Cao, Captain Osvaldo Rodolfo Antinori, and Colonel Alejandro Arias Duval, ordered by trial Judges Luis Velazco and Citor Gerardo Petiggiani. Also, Petiggiani "confirmed the legal and constitutional status of National Executive Branch Decree 2069-85 levying the state of siege throughout the nation."

Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish on 26 October and Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish on 27 October report Judge Luis Velazco's order releasing Colonel Pascual Guerrieri, journalist Daniel Horacio Rodriguez, and Rosendo Fraga, Jr. It is expected Velasco will rule shortly on the petition of Major Jorge Horacio Granada.

Minister Decries Rulings

PY261621 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1544 GMT 26 Oct 85

[Text] Buenos Aires, 26 Oct (TELAM) -- The national government will appeal the rulings of trial Judge Luis Enrique Velazco, who this morning ordered the release of Colonel Pascual Oscar Guerrieri and of journalist Daniel Horacio Rodriguez, arrested through Executive Branch Decree 2070-35. This statement was made to the press by Education and Justice Minister Carlos Alconada Aramburu, who added: We will appeal to the Supreme Court if necessary. The minister stated that it is alarming for national security that persons accused by the executive branch of causing serious public disturbance have been freed. He added that the judge's decision implies the usurpation of powers belonging exclusively to the executive branch, because the criterion of just cause argued by Judge Velazco is not addressed in Article 23 of the National Constitution.

Detainees' Release Overruled

PY281141 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 0440 GMT 27 Oct 85

[Text] Buenos Aires, 27 Oct (NA) -- Early this morning, the federal appellate court rejected the writs of habeas corpus filed for Captain Leopoldo Cao, Colonel Pascual Guerrieri, and journalist Daniel Rodriguez, thus ruling in favor of the appeals submitted by the national executive branch.

This report was confirmed after midnight simultaneously by the court and by the Interior Ministry, which stated in a brief communique that "in all cases the declarations of the unconstitutionality of Executive Branch Decree 2070/85" have been revoked. This decree had ordered the arrest of 12 people after the declaration of a state of siege.

According to judicial sources, Captain Cao reportedly voluntarily turned himself in to a Buenos Aires military unit, however, it could not be confirmed where or to what sort of unit.

The court did not specifically order the immediate arrest of the individuals charged in the presidential decree, and the possibility of such an order being issued in the next few hours has been ruled out. The court met all day yesterday, and its decision was only made known after midnight.

Elsewhere, trial Judge Pettigiani this morning ordered the release of Colonel Alejandro Agustin Arias Duval, the seventh out of a total of 12 individuals -- 6 civilians and 6 military men accused of disturbing public order -- ordered arrested by Executive Branch Decree 2070. The other five people remain at large.

Officer Voluntarily Returns

PY281233 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 1104 GMT 27 Oct 85

[Excerpts] Buenos Aires, 27 Oct (DYN) -- While proceedings continued regarding the appeal submitted by the government against a court ruling that released two civilians and five military officers held under arrest by the executive branch as a consequence of the state of siege, reliable sources this morning disclosed that the five military officers involved in the case are once again on military premises. The sources disclosed that all the military officers had been instructed by their lawyers to appear voluntarily at Army Corps installations.

The first one to appear last night was Captain Cao, after his lawyer, former Federal judge Jose Nicasio Dibur, informed him that the order of release initially given by Judge Victor Pettigiani had been revoked.

Further Government Appeal

PY272106 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1125 GMT 27 Oct 85

[Text] Buenos Aires, 27 Oct (TELAM) -- Trial Judge Victor Gerardo Petigiani today received the appeal brief filed by the national executive branch against the release of Colonel Alejandro Arias Duval, retired, arrested in keeping with National Executive Branch Decree 2070 for disrupting public order. The appeal was filed by Argentine Interior Ministry lawyers Raul Huidobro and Santiago Bargallo Beade. This information was confirmed by the secretary of the ninth national criminal court, who added that the Interior Ministry's lawyers telephoned Judge Petigiani to notify him of the government's appeal. Pursuant to this action, the government now has 48 hours to correct or add to the submitted appeal brief.

CAMPERO SIGNS TRADE ACCORDS WITH USSR, BULGARIA

PY261300 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1445 GMT 25 Oct 85

[Text] Buenos Aires, 25 Oct (NA) -- Foreign Trade Secretary Ricardo Campero, who this week concluded a tour through the Soviet Union and Bulgaria, has said that he was "very satisfied" with the outcome of his negotiations, which "consolidated the work that has been done over the past 2 years with the East European countries." Campero stated that, besides the conversations held and the agreements signed with the Bulgarian and the Soviet Governments, "the meeting in Moscow of all Argentine commercial attaches accredited to the CEMA countries was very useful."

Speaking to NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS, the foreign trade secretary especially emphasized that the agreements reached with Bulgaria are the most significant ones within the new policy toward Eastern Europe because "in Bulgaria alone, from zero dollars in 1983 we moved to $40 million in 1985, and we will increase to at least $150 million in 1986. Now we are doing very well there and, as expected, we have strengthened our position with the USSR. We have greatly strengthened our efforts in Poland. Now we will strengthen our efforts in the CSSR and the GDR," Campero stated, mentioning a possible improvement in trade with Hungary. Concerning Hungary, Campero added that the delegation was going to visit that country, "but they asked us to postpone the visit because they were not prepared yet."

During his visit to Bulgaria, Campero sold 500,000 tons of corn and 100,000 tons of wheat for 1985, with deliveries scheduled for January 1986. An agreement was also signed for the supply of soybean pellets, at a rate of 250,000 tons per year over the next 5 years. Campero also reached an agreement with Bulgaria where the latter will market meat in the Near East and Middle East. In this regard, the foreign trade secretary said that "the Bulgarians have developed a very efficient overland transportation service through a strife-torn region of the world, where air and maritime transportation are both very difficult. Because of this, Bulgaria is in a very good position to sell and distribute our meat."

Concerning the USSR, Campero stated that although "it is true that there were some tough stances on the Soviet side some time ago, the renewal of the agreement on cereals was not jeopardized at any time because we knew they were going to renew it." Campero added: "On the contrary, we have made progress now, in the sense of expanding and diversifying our exports to that market, because now we will be selling not only cereals but also a significant volume of manufactured goods like shirts, seamless steel pipes, and goods from the regional economies outside La Pampa Province."

DEFENSE MINISTRY SOURCE DENIES 'MILITARY PURGE'

PY252134 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1114 GMT 25 Oct 85

[Text] Buenos Aires, 25 Oct (NA) -- A high-ranking Defense Ministry source has bluntly denied that a "military purge" would force many officers on active duty to retire as part of a plan which Justicialist first vice president Vicente Saadi has called "Magnesia." The source said: "This is totally wrong," and added that "There are no plans for a massive retirement of officers."

Saadi yesterday said in a press conference that those officers who disagree with a plan to align the Argentine Armed Forces to the United States will be forced to retire.

SETUBAL CALLS ON WORLD POWERS TO END ARMS RACE

PY251442 Madrid EFE in Spanish GMT 25 Oct 85

[Text] Brasilia, 24 Oct (EFE) -- On the occasion of the 40th anniversary of the United Nations, Brazil today called upon the world powers to halt the escalation of the nuclear arms race.

Foreign Minister Olavo Setubal made a speech tonight during a ceremony held at the Foreign Ministry's auditorium marking the anniversary of the United Nations. All the diplomatic corps attended the ceremony. Setubal stated: It is particularly important to join our efforts to convince the world powers of the need to put an end to the escalation of the nuclear arms race which is threatening us with annihilation. Setubal made an analysis of the adverse international economic situation and reaffirmed the Latin American proposal on the need for a new world economic order. He called for a Latin American unity to begin talks with industrialized nations in order to find joint and long-standing solutions to the economic crisis.

SARNEY 'CLOSELY WATCHING' ARGENTINE CRISIS

PY260044 Paris AFP in Spanish 0022 GMT 26 Oct 85

[Text] Brasilia, 25 Oct (AFP) -- The Foreign Ministry today refrained from officially commenting on the Argentine crisis and on the imposition of the state of siege by President Raul Alfonsin, thus observing the Brazilian policy of not interfering in the domestic affairs of other countries. An Itamaraty (Foreign Ministry) spokesman stated, however, that President Jose Sarney and the Brazilian Government are closely watching Argentine events and hope that President Alfonsin will overcome the current crisis. The stability of the Argentine democracy has great significance for Latin America, a Foreign Ministry spokesman said.

Sarney and Alfonsin are scheduled to meet on 29-30 November at the Argentine-Brazilian border to dedicate a bridge on the Iguazu River.

MODIFIED AMNESTY APPROVED FOR 1964 COUP PURGEES

PY261229 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0555 GMT 25 Oct 85

[By Francisco Roque Bacarreza]

[Text] Brasilia, 24 Oct (EFE) -- Threats from military commands and the government today prevented Congress from approving a broad amnesty for civilians and military punished after the 1964 coup who have been deprived of their work benefits. Instead, an amended proposal submitted by progovernment Deputy Walmor Giovarina was approved. This proposal foresees the recognition of work benefits of thousands of civilians and military who have been punished and their immediate retirement. After the 1964 coup that overthrew President Joao Goulart, the military regime punished thousands of military and civilians by expulsion from the Army, firings, political persecution, and imprisonment.

Deputy Jorge Uequed, of the ruling party, presented another draft bill for a broad amnesty, a proposal which yesterday aroused tension between the military commanders and the government, and caused a wave of pressures on the progovernment congressional group. After hours of discussions in a joint session of the two congressional chambers, Congress decided to approve Giovarina's proposal, which reflects the goverment position on amnesty.

Approximately 100 former sailors, who today had begun their third day of a hunger strike for amnesty, have meekly announced the end of their strike and the acceptance of the Giovarina proposal.

The amnesty approved today is added to the call for a constitutent assembly to be held on 15 November 1986.

The military's threat was reflected in a brief statement made by Transport Minister Antonio Carlos Magalhaes who warned that should the amended proposal negotiated between the military chiefs and the government not be approved, undesirable problems could emerge.

On justifying his vote against the broad amnesty, Ulysses Guimaraes, president of the Chamber of Deputies, stated that it was to preserve what has been achieved so far, meaning democratic stability. Initially Guimaraes was for the proposal of his colleague Uequed, but the pressures have made him change his mind.

The tension yesterday forced President Jose Sarney to call an emergency meeting of the Political Council, during which the government congressional bloc was instructed to approve the Giovarina proposal. Before the vote, the Liberal Front, the Brazilian Democratic Mobilization Party's [PMDB] partner in the Democratic Alliance which politically supports the government, had supported President Sarney's official plans for amensty. Congressional sources today told EFE that the PMDB has been affected politically by the controversy that has emerged in its ranks over the amnesty and noted the damage that it could cause to its candidates in the 15 November mayoral elections. Deputy Giovarina, who presented the progovernment proposal, and his colleague Uequed both belong to the PMDB. The party apparently remained split today.

The opposition parties, namely, the Workers Party and the Brazilian Labor Party, have criticized the PMDB, recalling that when it was in opposition to the military governments, it had called for a total amnesty.

PRC DIPLOMATS REACT TO U.S. SENATOR'S STATEMENTS

PY2502236 Sao Paul O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 24 Oct 85 p 2

[Text] Brasilia -- PRC diplomats accredited in Brasilia yesterday expressed disbelief at the statements by U.S. Senator Alan Cranston that the PRC is exporting nuclear technology to several countries, including Brazil, for military purposes. According to the diplomats, who asked not to be identified, the PRC's agreements with other nations have peaceful purposes and, in the case of Brazil, the documents signed by former President Figueiredo in 1984 thus far have had no practical results. That is, they remain just a letter of intent [acordo de intencao] on nuclear cooperation.

However, the diplomats did not rule out the possibility that this matter will again be raised when Prime Minister Zhao Ziyang visits Brasilia on 30 October. Accompanied by an entourage of more than 100 persons -- among them, several ministers of state -- Zhao will stay 6 days in Brazil. He will be willing to hold additional talks with Brazilian businessmen to increase trade between the two countres. The presence of Mrs Chen Muhua, a councilor of state and the chairman of the Bank of China, in Zhao's entourage is interpreted as proof of the PRC's interest. It is also being said that the interests of the two countries in the field of aeronautics and space research coincide.

In the opinion of the Chinese diplomats, the statements by the U.S. senator are just "specualtions," and they gave as an example Cranston's listing of South Africa as one of the countries that import nuclear technology from the PRC.

CUADRA DISCUSSES MIR ARSENAL, NATIONAL ACCORD

PY252350 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1630 GMT 25 Oct 85

[Excerpt] Minister Secretary General of Government Francisco Javier Cuadra told reporters today that the arsenal discovered near Tacna and its link with the Movement of the Revolutionary Left [MIR] once again confirm the government's charges against an internation network of Marxist violence. Cuadra also said that, for obvious reasons, the details about the discovery of this arsenal are classified.

[Begin Cuadra recording] Some of the details are of course limited to the security services. The most important thing is the link that exists between the Shining Path and the MIR, thus confirming the government's charges against the terrorists, who are financed, organized, and supported by an international communist and Marxist force based in the Soviet Union, which issues orders to its worldwide network.

The presence of MIR members, who entered the country without authorization, also justifies the government's policy of restricting their presence here. Nevertheless, enforcement of this policy has been declining gradually. The presence of these individuals represents a high risk to the population, national coexistence, and safety. That is why we believe the work being carried out in Peru is very important. [end recording]

During the press conference, Cuadra was questioned about other current issues, such as the list of individuals who support the National Accord for the Transition Into Full Democracy, published by several newspapers.

[Begin recording] Some of the names on the list published by today's newspapers were expected, however, others were not, and it would be very interesting to hear their interpretation of the National Accord. The government itself has formally questioned some of the National Accord's aspects. [passage indistinct]

It would be interesting to clarify some of the documents's points on politics, society, economy and other subjects which are treated in general terms by too many diverse political tendencies, which wish to [word indistinct]. [end recording]

Government Accuses USSR

PY280208 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2251 GMT 26 Oct 85

[Text] Santiago, 26 Oct (EFE) -- The Chilean Government has accused the Soviet Union of supplying the banned opposition Movement of the Revolutionary Left (MIR) with arms. Furthermore, General Augusto Pinochet's regime holds the USSR responsible for giving economic and technical support to an international network of Marxist political and military organizations.

These charges were levelled by Chilean Minister Secretary General of Government Francisco Javier Cuadra, who said that Chilean Angel Rafael Munoz Pavez, arrested in Tacna (Peru) in possession of a shipment of arms together with an alleged member of the Shining Path, has been banned from entering Chile since 1976.

The Santiago newspaper EL MERCURIO, quoting the spokesman of the Chilean Embassy in Lima, reported today that there are grounds to suspect that the arms were brought in by Soviet fishing boats. This opinion was voiced in Lima by Popular Action Deputy Cesar Limo Quinonez.

Munoz Pavez, aka Remigio Munoz Galvan, who had also claimed Argentine, Bolivian, and Peruvian citizenships, was arrested last week at Llostay beach (Peru), 55 km north of the Chilean border, along with the Peruvian Hipolito Delgado Fernandez.

According to information received in Santiago, the arsenal discovered on 20 October in a summer residence in Llostay included approximately 1,000 automatic rifles, 100 cases of grenades, 500 disassembled mortars, a large number of detonators, more than 200 cases of ammunition for rifles and handguns, and 5 long-range rockets. Moreover, the Chilean Munoz and the Peruvian Delgado had two speedboats equipped with powerful engines.

The reports indicate that the two individuals were pretending to be fishermen while preparing a shipment of arms that was to go to Chile by sea in order to supply politico-military organizations opposed to General Augusto Pinochet's regime.

Meanwhile, information received from Valdivia, 900 km south of Santiago indicates that 10 years ago Munoz Pavez served in a commando company of the 4th Army Division until the security services learned that he was an MIR infiltrator. The EL MERCURIO report states that it has been impossible to find out how (after he was discovered and arrested) Munoz managed to flee the country.

Reports from Africa, 2,000 km north of Santiago near the Peruvian border, indicate that the usual patrols along the Chilean-Peruvian border have been stepped up since the discovery of the arsenal. Precautions have been taken in view of the fact that the discovery of the purported MIR and Shining Path arsenal took place a few days before the meeting which Chilean Foreign Minister Jaime del Valle and his Peruvian counterpart, Allan Wagner, are scheduled to hold on 7, 8, and 9 Novemeber.

In any case, Foreign Minister Jaime del Valle has said that these developments do not mean that the meeting will be suspended, merely that the Interior Ministry will implement the appropriate security measures.

100 SIGNATORIES SUPPORT NATIONAL ACCORD

PY252158 Santiago Radio Chilena in Spanish 1600 GMT 25 Oct 85

[Excerpt] Signatures of 100 individuals, ranging from national prize winners in various fields of science and culture to prominent politicians, appear on a list personally supporting the National Accord for the Transition to Full Democracy.

In statements to the program "Front Page," Gabriel Valdes has said that the signers' qualifications and their contributions to the country's progress and development make their support for the National Accord a landmark, which initiates an offensive to make the transition to full democracy a reality.

[Begin Valdes recording] This publication is very significant because these people are not involved in politics. However, they represent a wide variety of fields. National prize winners are here. Therefore, they are being acknowledged throughout Chile for their intellectual or professional qualities. There are very prominent professionals; there are businessmen; there are individuals who have devoted their lives to national activities from various perspectives. Therefore, this is the beginning, this campaign of collecting signatures -- and this is just the first publication.

It is specific proof that the National Accord is being supported by the best and most qualified people in the country. The signatories have not found anything in this accord hinting at inconsistency or contradiction, which have been alleged. This accord now represents the only way to achieve democracy promptly, something which all of us, including the signatories, seek through peaceful means, but quickly, right now. Democracy now, not later. Democracy has always been restricted [words indistinct] and ignored. [end recording]

Valdes made it clear that the publication of these lists of signatures were agreed to by all the parties that signed the National Accord and that these lists help in the effort to reach the goals that were set to make progress toward a common goal.

Valdes added that more lists of signatures will be published next week.

HONDURAN GENERAL MUST LEAVE COUNTRY BY 4 NOVEMBER

PY252112 Paris AFP in Spanish 2038 GMT 25 Oct 85

[Text] Santiago, 23 Oct (AFP) -- Foreign Minister Jaime del Valle disclosed today in Santiago that Honduran General Jose Bueso Rosa, accused of participating in a plot to murder Honduran President Roberto Suazo, will have to leave Chile in the next 10 days.

Del Valle said it is hoped that Bueso will leave the country voluntarily and noted the possibility of a decree expelling him from Chile if he does not leave before the 4 November deadline.

Buesco's lawyers said the U.S. Government has pressured Chile to obtain his expulsion, but the foreign minister denied these charges and said that the United States had set no conditions.

Gen Bueso was defense attache at the Honduran Embassy in Santiago until 1 year ago, when he was arrested and charged with participating in a plot organized in Miami.

The charges were made by the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), and the United States requested Bueno's extradition, which was denied in mid-July 1985.

COURT REFUSES TO RELEASE SEGUEL, OTHERS

PY260223 Santiago Radio Chilena in Spanish 2330 GMT 25 Oct 85

[Live relay from the 6th Court of Appeals by reporter Angelica Cabello]

[Excerpt] The 6th Court of Appeals has just released on bail the following social and labor leaders: Jorge Paves, Samuel Bello, Luis Campos, Carlos Poblete, Jose Rivera, and Jose Luis Figueroa.

However, the court has not released Rodolfo Seguel, Arturo Martinez, Manuel Bustos, Jose Ruiz Di Giorgio, Eduardo Valencia, and Mario Aranera, because they are considered dangerous to society.

AMBASSADOR TO UN PRAISES REAGAN SPEECH

PY251206 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1000 GMT 25 Oct 85

[Excerpts] The speech President Ronald Reagan delivered at the United Nations has produced several reactions. Pedro Daza, Chilean ambassador to the United Nations and head of the Latin American group, has said that the speech was very important and that it reflected an optimistic view of the international community's future.

[Begin Daza recording] Very important, very clear, very precise; I believe President Reagan did not conceal any of his opinions on the serious problems the world is confronting. It was also very optimistic, because he has many hopes for the future of the international community. [end recording]

POLICE MEET PERUVIAN COUNTERPARTS AT BORDER

PY260148 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 2200 GMT 25 Oct 85

[Relay from Arica by unidentified reporter]

[Excerpts] The Peruvian and Chilean investigative police discussed several matters today in Tacna, Peru, during their annual meeting for exchange of information to coordinate joint actions against crime.

They discussed contraband and the counterfeiting of money yesterday, and today they talked about terrorism and drug trafficking.

The Chilean police were given all the background reports about the recent case of the discovery of an ammunition depot along the Tacna coast, 40 km from the Chilean border.

The Chilean delegation was headed by General Fernando Paredes Pizarro, director general of the Chilean Investigative Police, and Arias Catalan Catalan, Chilean Investigative Police coordination and inspection chief.

The Peruvian Investigative Police delegation was headed by General Director Lieutenant General Mario Munoz Malaver and Treasury Police Director General Rolando Llanos Olivero.

FOREIGN MINISTRY DENIES SPY IN PERU CHILEAN

PY261032 Paris AFP in Spanish 2053 GMT 25 Oct 85

[Text] Santiago, 25 Oct (AFP) -- The Chilean Foreign Ministry today stated that an alleged military spy jailed this week by Peruvian authorities is not a Chilean citizen.

The alleged spy, Israel Martin Carrasco Flores, was detained while taking pictures of the strategic oil pipeline linking the Amazon oil fields with the Piura coast, in northern Peru.

The Chilean Foreign Ministry states that Carrasco Flores is in fact Peruvian and that the confusion about his citizenship originated in the fact that he was carrying false documents.

BLACKOUT AFFECTS DOWNTOWN SANTIAGO, MINISTRIES

PY261815 Paris AFP in Spanish 0515 GMT 26 Oct 85

[Text] Santiago, 25 Oct (AFP) -- According to police sources, a partial blackout occurred tonight [25 October] in the downtown area of Santiago, affecting all neighborhoods, including La Moneda Palace. The cause is not known.

The break in electricity was recorded at 2330 and lasted approximately 5 minutes, causing problems to vehicle traffic when street lights along several blocks of the main avenue in Santiago went out.

The blackout affected some 10 blocks of the heart of Santiago, where the Defense of Foreign Ministries, the Carabineros General Directorate, and other important offices are located, without extending to other sectors, however.

The last general blackout occurred on 11 September 1985 and affected a broad sector of the country's central zone, between La Serena and Osorno, covering 1,500 km. That blackout was claimed by the clandestine Manuel Rodriguez Patriotic Front.

POLICE ARREST 17 IN INCIDENTS; BOMB DEFUSED

PY252045 Santiago Radio Chilena in Spanish 1600 GMT 25 Oct 85

[Excerpt] Police sources have reported that 13 people were arrested last night for disrupting public order, while 4 others were arrested for allegedly violating the state security law.

Those arrested for disrupting public order were freed after their addresses were taken and notices were issued for them to appear before a local court.

Those arrested for violating the state security law are still being held at the disposal of the Interior Ministry. The 17 people were arrested during incidents on Alameda, Moneda, Ahumada, and San Antonio Streets.

The sources also stated that last night at 2100 unidentified individuals planted a bomb in the fountain at the intersection of Alameda and Ahumada Streets. Bomb experts defused the bomb, and the reports of this case have been sent to the appropriate military court.

COMMUNIQUE URGES SUPPORT FOR ARGENTINE PROCESS

PA271247 Paris AFP in Spanish 1632 GMT 26 Oct 85

[Text] Bogota, 26 Oct (AFP) -- The Colombian Government of President Belisario Betancur today urged the rulers of Latin America and the whole world to support the measures of Argentine President Raul Alfonsin, whose efforts for consolidating democracy were praised. The Information and Press Office of the House of Narino, the presidential palace, issued the following communique to this effect:

"Concerning the recent events in the Republic of Argentina, the Government of Colombia is very pleased to observe the manner in which the electoral process has been developing in that country within a framework of full liberty.

"The government of President Raul Alfonsin deserves recognition from the hemisphere and the whole world for its efforts to consolidate the democratic institutions of Argentina.

"Evidence of this is the fact that in spite of the imposition of the state of emergency for 60 days, the forthcoming legislative elections will be held according to schedule, fully respecting the civil and political guarantees for all sectors in that sister nation.

"The Government and president of Colombia reiterate in these moments to the government and people of Argentina their solidarity and recognition for the task they are carrying out."

GOVERNMENT MINISTER ON POSSIBILITY OF CIVIL WAR

PA241630 Bogota Emisoras CARACOL Network in Spanish 1215 GMT 24 Oct 85

[Text] Government Minister Jaime Castro has told the Senate that the guerrillas have the capability to disrupt peace in the country but not to seize power. He outlined the authorities' plan to guarantee that the coming elections will be free and pure. Castro answered questions during a secret Senate meeting following debate promoted by the liberals on the peace process and the difficulties faced by the leaders of legal political parties in engaging in campaign work in opposition to armed sectors that are presumably coercing the electors.

The minister defended the dialogue process with the guerrillas and stressed that even though the government is intent on maintaining its line of persuasion through political channels, it will not hesitate to apply rigorously the full weight of the laws of the state on those who insist on not heeding this call for harmony and on stepping outside the realm of institutional life.

Castro spoke with the senators behind closed doors and amid protests from members of the House of Representatives, who were barred from the meeting room, and complaints that, as Antioquia leader [name indistrinct] said, a report of the significance of the one being given by Castro should be made known to the public at large.

Although it was requested that the meeting be secret, one of the loudspeakers in the Senate corridors remained on, allowing newsmen to listen to a major portion of the explanations by Castro, who said that if the current escalation of violence continues, Colombia may fall into a state of disarray that may end in civil war, which no one wants but which cannot be ruled out.

Castro submitted a {word indistinct} of the government's expenses to give the Armed Forces better weapons and equipment to fight the continued existence of subversive groups. However, he extolled the good results of the peace negotiations with FARC [Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia], the country's largest guerrilla organization.

RICARDO FRANCO FRONT ANNOUNCES END TO ACTIONS

PA272005 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1836 GMT 27 Oct 85

[Text] Bogota, 27 Oct (EFE) -- The Ricardo Franco Front, a dissident group of the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC), today announced a halt to activities in order to prevent assassinations and attacks against its members. The announcement was made by the group that broke away from the FARC following the signing of the truce with the government of President Belisario Betancur last year. In a communique sent to the news media and signed by its general commander, Javier Delgado, it rejected the assassination of five Indians.

We have decided to stop and to heed the call of sister organizations. We are therefore demanding a reciprocal attitude, the guerrilla message stated. It also called for the bestowing of honors on the assassinated comrades.

The Ricardo Franco Front document accused the FARC and Jacobo Arenas, the main ideologue of the country's largest guerrilla group, of ordering the killing of five Indian companeros accused of collaborating with the Ricardo Franco Front and of then blaming the front for their deaths.

It also demanded that the FARC, which is preparing to participate in the 1986 elections through the Patriotic Union and the possible presidential candidacy of Arenas, understand the call of the guerrilla National Coordinating Board to halt the war among the poor and to put a political stop to the situation.

Last month the Ricardo Franco Front, the Quintin Lame Indian group, and the 19 April Movement (M-19) created in the Andean central mountain range the United Revolutionary Directorate of Colombia [Direccion Revolucionaria Unida de Colombia -- DRUC] to coordinate guerrilla actions.

HIJACKERS TAKE OVER PLANE, ROB PASSENGERS

PA262058 Paris AFP in Spanish 2001 GMT 26 Oct 85

[Text] Medellin, 26 Oct (AFP) -- Four hijackers took over a plane of the Central Airlines of Colombia (ACES) with 20 passengers on board while it was flying from Medellin to El Bagre, northeastern Antioquia. The hijackers forced the crew at gunpoint to detour from its route and land at the small airport of Amalfi, where they remained for a few minutes. They then robbed the passengers and stole the cargo of the plane, CARACOL radio network has reported. The Amalfi airport is located in Antioquia Department.

In order to board the plane, the hijackers mingled with the passengers, and a few minutes after takeoff they pointed their small firearms at the crew and would not allow the pilot to communicate with the control tower, the chief of the operations of the Medellin airport, Alfredo Chafer, reported. After taking control of the airplane and in the midst of the excitement of the passengers, they forced the crew to land at the Amalfi airport, which is practically deserted. There they robbed the passengers and took most of the cargo, Chafer said. After concluding their operation, the hijackers fled to the mountains.

ARMED GROUP KILLS 2 SOLDIERS, WOUNDS 4

PA261915 Bogota Cadena Radial Super in Spanish 1730 GMT 26 Oct 85

[Text] Medellin -- Two police agents were killed and four wounded when a guerrilla group attacked a police patrol in the Municipality of Jerico. Alberto Marulanda, the town's mayor, has reported that an undetermined number of rebels of an unidentified subversive group attacked a police patrol on a mission in the area of Tarso, in the southwestern region of Antioquia Department.

The rebels intercepted the military vehicle in which the policemen were travelling in the Rio Frio sector; fighting ensued. As a result, two policemen were killed and four wounded. They have not yet been identified. At this moment the Army and the Police are engaged in intense search operations to capture the guerrillas.

'Situation Under Control'

PA261917 Bogota Cadena Radial Super in Spanish 1730 GMT 27 Oct 85

[Text] Bogota -- The National Defense Ministry has stated that at noon today the public order situation in the country is under control. The authorities have carried out 16 raids, and nearly 100 persons have been arrested. Some of those arrested have been involved in criminal activities.

The most serious situation emerged in the rural area of the municipality of Jerico, where two police agents died and four other were wounded when a police patrol was ambushed by an unidentified guerrilla group. At this moment combined army and police forces are combing the hilly area, searching for the rebels.

Raids are being carried out in Ibague, Bucaramanga, Medellin, Cali, Neiva, Popaya, and Bogota to arrest any person having ties with rebel groups.

DAS CHIEF IN TURBO ASSASSINATED 27 OCT

PA271831 Bogota Cadena Radial Super in Spanish 1740 GMT 27 Oct 85

[Text] Medellin -- Three unidentified individuals today assassinated the Turbo chief of the DAS [Administrative Department of Security] while he was in a restaurant. Marco Aurelio Ramirez, 33 years old, was shot four times in a surprise attack while he was conducting a search after someone in the restaurant fired a shot into the air. It was reported that Ramirez had been DAS chief in Turbo for only 3 months.

VICE PRESIDENT DENOUNCES 'EXTREME LEFTISTS' PLOT

PA280319 Quito Voz de los Andes in Spanish 1130 GMT 24 Oct 85

[Text] Vice President Blasco Penaherrera Padilla has denounced the existence of an extreme leftist conspiracy to carry out deeds of violence. He indicated that this plot by extreme leftists responds to anti-Ecuadoran motives and interests. He said this during a discussion with media representatives.

[Begin recording] [Penaherrera] Unfortunately, force can be stopped only with force. A planned, aggressive demonstration with terrorist overtones cannot be dissolved with pats on the back, not at all.

[Unidentified reporter] Does the government assume a repressive stance to check these outrages you have mentioned?

[Penaherrera] I beg you not to use that style; it does not fit your profession's dignity. You cannot even be sure of the nature of a repressive government. [passage indistinct] This is a government that maintains order and social harmony. We live in a peaceful, quiet climate. People walk and move about here as they cannot walk or move about in any other city in the world, at least on this continent. I have exaggerated somewhat. If there are groups that want to create adverse conditions by burning vehicles and beating policemen, then force has to be used. This is what the police force is for. Be it here, Havana, Managua, New York, Paris, or any other place in the world, the pretext of the foreign debt payment will be used for seditious actions. However, we cannot permit this.

[Reporter] You have said there is no repression, but [words indistinct].

[Penaherrera] This is not repression, but the keeping of order. When efforts are made to alter order, there is only one way to keep it. The police actions were prompted by this clearly evident plot. Youths in particular should take notice of the seriousness of this plot. I have said this a number of times, and I am sure the news media will disseminate it. It is our youths who benefit from this government's success. If the sinister plan to defeat our efforts to rebuild our economy and society succeeds, Ecuador will sink into confusion and destruction, from which there is no return [words indistinct].

[Reporter] Plot by whom?

[Penaherrera] By the extreme left, which responds to anti-Ecuadoran motives and interests.

[Reporter] But surely there will also be many workers who [words indistinct].

[Penaherrera] That would be those who have been manipulated by the extreme leftists, not common workers like you, me, and many others.

[Reporter] [Words indistinct] that manipulation?

[Penaherrera] It is evident; it is evident. [end recording]

PRESIDENT DISMISSES CIVIL GUARD COMMANDER

PY252208 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2127 GMT 25 Oct 85

[Excerpt] Lima, 25 Oct (TELAM-REUTER-ANSA) -- Today the government of President Alan Garcia Perez dismissed General Raul Pareja, commander of the Civil Guard, the largest Peruvian police force. This decision was made within the framework of the reorganization process begun by the security forces. The measure, which was made public today, raises new expectations about the antisubversive policy adopted by the government in view of increasing terrorist activities in vast areas of the country.

Pareja's dismissal was announced by the official newspaper EL PERUANO, which states that the executive branch has chosen General Carlos Rodriquez Tirado, an officer with much experience in the antiterrorist struggle, to replace Pareja as chief of the Civil Guard, a force with more than 35,000 men. In fact, Rodriguez Tirado was chief of an important regional police headquarters that includes Ayachucho, where almost 100 guards have been killed by pro-Maoist terrorists of the Shining Path group.

Official circles made no comment on this new replacement in the higher echelons of the security force. Other dismissals have been ordered during the 3 months since Alan Garcia Perez was sworn in as president. They include 46 generals and 118 colonels of the police force. Despite the official silence, several Interior Ministry sources have asserted that the dismissed officers are allegedly linked to the profitable drug-trafficking business in Peru.

GARCIA DISCUSSES 'SURRENDER' OF PEASANTS

PY251301 Lima Television Service in Spanish 0100 GMT 25 Oct 85

[Impromptu press conference held on 25 October in Lima after a tour of the Lima Maternity Hospital by President Alan Garcia Perez -- recorded]

[Excerpt] [Reporter] Mr President what are your views regarding [words indistinct] of those groups that have surrendered to apparently return to normal activities?

[Garcia] I would not describe it as a surrender because that sounds too much like a war term. I would say that peasants who have either been forced or who voluntarily have taken part in subversive operations for many years have understood the senselessness of violence, that those who promote it have little chance of succeeding, and that moreover, they have a government that defends the people, that defends the great national majorities. I am happy that this is happening and I plan to meet these people within a few hours, to learn the reasons that compelled them to take part, either directly or indirectly, in subversive actions, to learn what are they expecting from the country and their future plans. Right or wrong, they are Peruvians and I want to meet the leaders of the Llochegua group which sought refuge at the antiguerrilla post.

Meets Peasants

PY251356 Lima Television Service in Spanish 0100 GMT 25 Oct 85

[Report from Government House by Patricia Bond]

[Text] The Government House press secretariat this afternoon issued an official communique which reads:

Today, the president met with eight Ayacucho citizens from the towns of (Pasos de Corazon Pata) and Querobamba who a few days ago decided to seek the protection of the Llochegua antiguerrilla base. During the meeting, the peasants explained the reasons that compelled them to get involved in a support group for subversive activities. The government is making the necessary arrangements to guarantee the personal security and well-being of the citizens in question and their respective families.

Lima, 24 October 1985

PRISON DIRECTOR KILLED; MURDERERS IDENTIFIED

PY251411 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0555 GMT 25 Oct 85

[Text] Lima, 24 Oct (EFE) -- It was reported here that the terrorist who led the attack in which Domingo Garcia Rada, president of the National Electoral Board, was badly injured is the same one who headed the group that today killed Miguel Castro Castro, the director of El Fronton island prison. Today, the state news agency ANDINA quoted police sources as saying that Santiago Castillo C., also known as Comrade Pedro or Comrade Antonio, is responsible for the attack against Castro, who was shot to death as he was leaving his home this morning. The same sources reported that Castro was shot by a woman named Lucia. The terrorists were identified on the basis of the descriptions supplied by Castro's driver Luis Edmundo Meza, who was wounded during the attack, and other eyewitnesses.

According to the police, Castillo allegedly masterminded and led the attack against Garcia Rada in April. Garcia Rada was seriously injured, but resumed his duties some months later. The two identified terrorists, of the five who attacked Castro, are members of the Shining Path, a Maoist group. Many alleged Shining Path members are imprisoned in El Fronton, where they have provoked a series of riots demanding better treatment and political prisoner status.

The attack occurred some hours before 8 of the 51 Shining Path members who laid down their arms in Llochegua, Ayacucho Department, arrived at Government House in Lima, where they were received by President Alan Garcia Perez..

WAGNER HOLDS TALKS WITH ECUADOR'S TERAN

PY261502 Lima Television Service in Spanish 0100 GMT 26 Oct 85

[Excerpts] Foreign Minister Allan Wagner today held a comprehensive work meeting with his Ecuadoran counterpart Edgar Teran, during which they reviewed and established new guidelines for bilateral agreements that are presently in force.

This morning's editions of influential Ecuadoran newspapers note that the fact that the Peruvian foreign minister was welcomed by Ecuadoran President Leon Febres with honors due a head of state clearly shows that Peruvian-Ecuadoran relations are at the highest level and are being conducted through direct channels.

Jose Ayala, Ecuadoran ambassador to Peru, today said that the invitation extended to Peruvian Foreign Minister Allan Wagner is clear evidence of the constructive and peaceful spirit that characterizes Ecuadoran foreign policy. Moreover, Peruvian Vice President Luis Alberto Sanchez has noted that Peru and Ecuador must overcome past disagreements and establish positive bilateral relations, since this is the sincere desire and interest of both nations.

Returns, Makes Statement

PY262358 Paris AFP in Spanish 1848 GMT 26 Oct 85

[Text] Lima, 25 Oct (AFP) -- Foreign Minister Allan Wagner today said in Lima that the visit he just concluded to Ecuador was of great significance and importance for relations between the two countries, and he announced the future visit to Lima of his Ecuadoran counterpart, Edgar Teran, as an official guest. In my judgment, it is important that we have been able to strengthen relations of mutual confidence, which is very significant, Wagner said on arriving today at Jorge Chavez International Airport. He said a broad avenue of cooperation in many fields is opening to our peoples, adding that because of the favorable results of this cooperation, it is indispensable that both governments continue their relations for the benefit of peace and understanding between the peoples of Peru and Ecuador. I am proud to say that we were warmly and cordially welcomed by the Ecuadoran Government and people. I am greatly satisfied with the results of this visit, he stated.

He added: I am grateful for and impressed by the hospitality and feelings of brotherhood toward Peru fostered by the Ecuadoran President Leon Febres Cordero, to whom I personally gave a letter from President Alan Garcia Perez. Saying he was honored to meet with Leon Febres, Wagner stated that the two governments have similar views on bilateral relations, based on human communication, which generates friendship and confidence so that these relations will be closer and more fruitful.

Referring to the agreement for the Puyango (Ecuador)-Tumbes (Peru) Project, which has been signed and which benefits the two countries, Wagner said: We activated again in Quito the seventh meeting of the Joint Commission for the Exploitation of the Binational River Basins. The joint commission has begun work to carry out that historical commitment that will symbolize what our countries can do in terms of agreement and cooperation, the Peruvian foreign minister said with an expression of satisfaction.

He then stressed the importance of the four agreements that were signed on repressing the illegal use and traffic of drugs and psychotropic substances, on culture and education, on scientific and technological cooperation, and on the exemption of diplomatic and official visas. He concluded by expressing gratitude to the Ecuadoran Government and people, and hoped for the opportunity to welcome Foreign Minister Edgar Teran, who will soon visit our country.

NICARAGUA'S SERGIO RAMIREZ INTERVIEWED

PY252038 Lima LA REPUBLICA in Spanish 11 Oct 85 pp 7, 8, 9

["Excerpts" of interview with Nicaraguan Vice President Sergio Ramirez (S.R.) by Raul Vargas and Mirko Lauer of LA REPUBLICA (L.R.) in Lima -- date not given]

[Excerpt] L.R.: Mr Vice President, what's the reason for your visit to Lima?

S.R.: We are here to talk with President Alan Garcia. We held an unscheduled meeting today. Yesterday morning, I talked with President Sanguinetti from Uruguay; in the afternoon, I talked with President Alfonsin from Argentina; and I arrived here at midnight. That is what we call straightforward diplomacy, that is, coming to a country and laying out the problems with little ceremony, so that the countries that are interested in a negotiated peaceful solution in Central America can be informed of our viewpoints on the situation so they can really help to achieve a negotiated peaceful solution.

L.R.: The three presidents you mentioned participate in the Lima support group of the Contadora Group. Does this mean that you have special questions that you will discuss first with the members of the Lima group and then with the members of the Contadora Group?

S.R.: I am also visiting countries of the Contadora Group. I talked with President Betancur of Colombia on Friday, with the President of Panama on Saturday, and I expect to talk with President Sarney of Brazil and President Lusinchi of Venezuela next week. Unfortunately, I have to return to Nicaragua tomorrow because President Daniel Ortega has to go to the United Nations. So we will complete this round of consultations in a second trip.

L.R.: What is the topic of these consultations?

S.R.: Our view of the peace negotiation process in Central America, its various aspects, and the factors of strain that constantly come up. We are attending the Panama meeting where a new document is being discussed. I want to emphasize that it is new because last year the Contadora Group presented us with a definitive document, which we said we were willing to sign. This is obviously a new document; it contains new elements. We are attending that meeting with a very constructive attitude to discuss the new document and to seek answers because, let me emphasize this, we have already signed a definitive document and this is a new document. As I said, for us, the willingness to sign a comprehensive document to bring peace to Central America is a priority that is not open to question. With this spirit we have attended these negotiations in recent months. If any country is interested in peace, that country is Nicaragua because we are paying the high cost of a devastating war that every day is taking many lives in the country. But beyond all this, there is another important factor: We can work on these negotiations but as long as the U.S. Government does not seriously and credibly commit itself to respect commitments resulting from the peace negotiations, we believe that it will be hard to make progress. This is true because even if a legal document were signed by all the Central American countries, commitments by the U.S. Government would still be necessary. For us, the fundamental commitment the U.S. Government must make is to respect the existence of Nicaragua in the form the Nicaraguans have chosen, promoting a revolutionary process and preserving our rights of sovereignty and independence. If this cannot be achieved, many peace processes will not be able to thrive.

L.R.: It seems that some small countries are absent in addition to the large one. Do you believe there has been a change in the attitude favoring peace and the noninternationalization of the conflict, which other South American countries had, in varying degrees, some 2 or 3 years ago?

S.R.: I believe we are going back to that attitude. For reasons that I will not qualify in disparaging terms, the Central Americans were quickly manipulated in this conflict, and they were even forced to some extent, by the action of the United States, to do things against their will. The most important factors in this complex problem are quite obvious. In the first place, there is the direct financial and material support for the counterrevolutionary forces. The fact that the United States has forced -- I say forced and I want to emphasize the word -- the Honduran Government to accept the presence of counterrevolutionary forces in its territory, which is being used as a base from which to launch attacks against Nicaragua, is aggression. The existence of permanent military bases in Honduras and the continuous military exercises by U.S. troops with U.S. equipment pose a constant danger of military invasion of Nicaragua. These factors depend on the will of the United States.

L.R.: What have been the economic effects of the measures adopted by the United States? Can these effects be evaluated?

S.R.: Of course they can be evaluated. In the first place, the aggression is obviously intended to militarily overthrow the Government of Nicaragua, a legitimately established government. This explains the continuous military attacks; attacks against the country's economy through operations against some Nicaraguan ports; attacks against fuel deposits, forcing the evacuation of the population; attacks against oil pipelines to terminals; against bridges, highways, food warehouses, killing people in the process; and against members of cooperatives riding in civilian vehicles. This explains the actions of counterrevolutionary forces in areas at harvest season, as in the case of the coffee harvest. We now have a plague attacking sugarcane plantations with a virus we have never had before. So we have the right to think that this is a form of struggle against Nicaragua. The country's crops are being affected and we are suffering a financial embargo. U.S. Secretary of State Shultz has signed a letter to the president of the Inter-American Development Bank threatening him to try to force him to stop a $57-million agricultural development loan. The commercial ban on our export products in the United Nations is also part of the arsenal of aggression, which has deeply affected our country's economy. It has affected the way we respond to the economic crisis, as have the consequences of the warfare. We are also suffering the consequences of the economic crisis through international prices, the increasing prices of the products we have to import for the country's subsistence. All this leads to the conclusion that Nicaragua faces great difficulties as a result of this aggression.

L.R.: Mr Vice President, what can you tell us about the political aspects, about what we call the irritating elements on the Nicaraguan reality in relation to its neighboring countries and the United States, that is, the problems with Cuba and the USSR, and the problem of the Sandinist government's relations with the opposition, which seem to be the principal complaints of the United States and the neighboring countries against Nicaragua?

S.R.: We established relations with the USSR and joined the Nonaligned Movement when it began. One of our government's first steps, in July 1979 during the 10th congress of nonaligned countries, was to establish relations with many countries. We have established new international relations; we have not broken relations with any country, not even with Israel, which was the last country to help the Somoza dictatorship. Israel called back its last arms shipment to Somoza from the middle of the Atlantic because the Nicaraguan military situation had changed. However, not even then did we break relations with Israel. We have not established relations with South Africa, for example, but we have not severed relations with Taiwan, either. We established relations with the USSR to meet our country's economic and defense needs. At that time we turned to the USSR and to other socialist countries, just as we have turned to many countries in the world. When we first had to buy helicopters to fight the counterrevolutionary gangs, in a war that was still undeclared, we purchased three secondhand helicopters from the United States before our relations had deteriorated. We asked for credit to buy weapons from France, which agreed to grant us a 17-million-franc credit for the purchase of helicopters and patrol boats. We also turned to socialist countries, and began to receive weapons. This is our situation regarding the military sector.

Regarding economic matters, up to 1984 our trade, our economic relations with the socialist countries on investment projects did not exceed 25 percent of all Nicaragua's trade transactions. Therefore, even now our trade is not one-sided, our trade is well distributed among the Latin American countries, Western countries, and the Arab world. For example, we always wanted to remain a party to the Mexican-Venezuelan agreement concerning oil. The financial conditions of this agreement were no longer advantageous because Nicaragua had to pay 70 percent of the oil bill in cash and 30 percent on credit. For some of those imports, Mexico gave us better terms than those established in the agreement; and there was also a small credit from the Soviet Union with much better terms of oil imports. Therefore, the main Nicaraguan oil supplier is now the Soviet Union.

But this is not a political issue, because for us it is much easier to import oil from Mexico and Venezuela than from the Soviet Union. In addition, Soviet oil does not have the qualities needed by the Nicaraguan oil refinery, which is owned by Esso. So only clumsy propaganda says that the Nicaraguan economy depends on the socialist countries. There is no dependency in trade or in investment resources.

In the military area, we obviously receive our weapons mainly from the socialist bloc. These are weapons that we receive practically as a donation and which we obviously need to defend the country in the midst of the war we are going through. We are not going to need these weapons after peace is restored in Central America.

Our relations with Cuba have been of a different nature from the beginning. The Sandinist front had links with Cuba before the victory. Cuba offered us political support in the struggle against the Somoza dictatorship. Therefore, when we established relations with Cuba, we did it on different terms than with the socialist countries of Eastern Europe. Our relations with Cuba have been closer. The first country to send large groups of technicians, teachers, and road construction experts was Cuba. We bagan with 2,000 Cuban teachers, who helped us to solve the problem of serving the population in the rural areas, in the abandoned schools of those areas. Thanks to Cuban aid, we were able to begin building the first road linking the Pacific with the Atlantic and, obviously, we began to receive advisers from Cuba for the formation of a new army. These are the characteristics of our relations with Cuba. We can calculate that Cuban technical and material cooperation during the first 3 years reached $60 million per year. But Nicaragua also received extensive cooperation from European and Latin American countries, and thanks to this help the revolution was able to solve some of its problems. Mexican cooperation was essential to the revolution during the Lopez Portillo Administration and even during the current administration of President De la Madrid.

LR: How are relations with the opposition?

SR: Relations with the opposition, with the political parties that do not belong to the Nicaraguan National Assembly -- in Nicaragua there are two oppositions, one that belongs to the National Assembly formed by six political parties and the opposition that does not belong to the National Assembly. [sentence as published] I believe there is a disruptive factor in what should be a normal relationship between the opposition and the governing party, and taking into account that Nicaragua is experiencing a revolution, there are certain characteristics which must be included in our democratic constitution. The Sandinist front took power by force. As a consequence, it did not come to power through elections, but through an armed revolution. The revolution entails various factors that have social and economic consequences and that constantly alter national life. We tried to organize democratic participation through the elections held in 1984. The aforementioned disruptive factor is very important, because there are extreme rightist parties that believe that their political future will be safeguarded if they unconditionally support the United States against Nicaragua. Their future will only be safeguarded when a counterrevolutionary regime rules in Nicargua and they become the political factors that guide such a regime; because of this stance, they are intransigent. At this point I am referring not only to the extreme rightist political parties but also to the other forces that belong to the extreme right, such as the private business leadership, which acts as if it were a political party, and some members of church hierarchy, who also act like a political party.

L.R.: Mr Vice President, how near, how probable do you consider a radical escalation of the U.S. intervention? There is a lot of talk about a possible intervention. On more than one occasion you have stated that this is a real threat, and at an unofficial level, have even ventured to mention dates on more than one occasion. If one had to measure it in historical terms, would you say that Nicaragua is more likely now to be invaded by the United States than it was in other years, on other occasions?

S.R.: We have already said, we have already complained that there are situations that could lead to an immediate military intervention. But we have not done this because we want to be invaded, but precisely because we want to avoid being invaded. We are not anxious for a U.S. invastion, but we are accused of crying wolf. Since the invasion is taking a long time to happen people say "You see, all that fuss and they were not invaded." It is not that we shun direct U.S. military intervention because we fear to confront it. As Nicaraguans we are going to repel any U.S. military intervention and create the conditions for it to become an international defeat. But obviously our objective is not to encounter such a situation, but to seek a solution through negotiations and understanding, taking into account some factors that are beyond our control. From our point of view, overall Central American negotiations must in the first place preserve Nicaragua's interests. They must respect our right as an independent country and our right to survive, and should include a guarantee of respect for Nicaragua. Negotiations cannot be successful if they exclude the Sandinist front and include a pro-U.S. government. This is something we are never going to accept. Secondly, they must preserve the interests of other Central American countries. We cannot have hope for a negotiation that preserves only Nicaragua's interests.

Obviously, we must recognize that there has been and continues to be a revolutionary phenomenon in Nicaragua and that it has had deep-rooted impact in the country's life, that it has altered property rights, done away with ancient privileges, and created new social forces that in the past had no voice. A revolution that distributes land, creates new property owners through land reform, and provides education for thousands who in the past had no access to education or to health service obviously has an explosive effect in the region. This obviously rocks the other Central American countries. Nicaragua has been hit by a quake and its shockwaves have rocked other countries, where privileged groups react furiously to the changes experienced in Nicaragua. Therefore, in return for what we seek, assurance is sought by the other Central American countries who are enduring socioeconomic difficulties that the Nicaraguan revolution does not pose a threat to them. It is only natural for such a fear to exist and that we should assert that the Nicaraguan revolution is not expansionist nor is it like the liberal revolutions of the nineteenth century which, having taken over power in a country, sought to oust governments of neighboring countries or further away. Such a guarantee must be included in an overall agreement. However, we cannot believe that a Central American agreement is possible with the backing of just the Central American countries. The United States must participate in such an agreement, guaranteeing that it will not intervene in our revolution.

BRIEFS

REAR ADMIRALS PROMOTED -- The following rear admirals were promoted to vice admirals during a ceremony on 9 October: Augusto Fernandez, naval attache in France; Oscar Jansen, naval attache in the Netherlands; Oscar Anderson, project director; Gonzalo Gambirazzio, Surface Forces commander; and Augusto Parodi, Marine commander. [Summary] [Lima DIARIO DE LA REPUBLICA in Spanish 14 Oct 85 p 5 PY]

MINISTER DENIES HELP FOR ARGENTINA IN COUP PLOT

PY270301 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0049 GMT 27 Oct 85

[Excerpt] Montevideo, 26 Oct (EFE) -- Uruguayan Defense Minister Juan Vicente Charino today denied any cooperation by Uruguayan secret services with the Buenos Aires Government to uncover a coup plot in Argentina.

EXECUTIVE-LEGISLATIVE CONFLICT AFTER INCIDENT

PY290057 Paris AFP in Spanish 0002 GMT 28 Oct 85

[Text] Montevideo, 27 Oct (AFP) -- Congressional sources today reported that a confrontation between the executive and legislative branches seems to be imminent in Uruguay after two opposition deputies were beaten up by the security forces.

The congressional bloc of the broad Front left-wing coalition (21.5 percent of the constituency) has announced that tomorrow it will summon Interior Minister Carlos Manini Rios for questioning, and several Broad Front parliamentarians have called for the minister's resignation.

The Broad Front decided on this course of action 24 hours after its deputies Carlos Negro and Gilberto Rios reported that they were beaten and kicked around by members of the antiriot police while trying to enter a school occupied by students.

The police had surrouded the Artigas Institute for Teachers (IPA) to thwart a student demonstration calling for increased participation in management of the institute's affairs. Broad Front Deputy Luis Pittaluga today reported that the police unleashed savage repression against a group of demonstrators outside the institute who were expressing their support for the occupiers. Pittaluga stated that several policemen beat up some of the onlookers, including a journalist.

Although eyewitnesses have reported that at least one person had to be taken to a hospital following the incident, the police did not report any casualties.

Deputies Rios and Negro claim to have been beaten by the police during the skirmishes that led to the eviction of the students from the institute. Negro said he was kicked after he fell, taken to a police precinct station under arrest, and then released. After filing charges before a court, Negro said the interior minister was responsible for the incidents and he called for Rios' resignation.

Senator Hugo Batalla, leader of the Movement for the People's Government (the largest sector of the Broad Front), today said that incidents of this kind seriously jeopardize the freedom that democracy must have and he announced that in view of the aggression, he will raise the issue of congressional immunity in Congress tomorrow.

Meanwhile, the lawmakers of the center Blanco Party (main opposition party) indicated that they will back the Broad Front's decision to summon Manini Rios for questions and said the police seriously violated congressional immunity.

ORTEGA MAKES BRIEF STOPOVER, MEETS VALERO

PA272256 Mexico City XEW Television Network in Spanish 1600 GMT 27 Oct 85

[Text] On his way back to his country from New York, where he attended the events marking the United Nations' 40th anniversary, Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega made a short stopover in Mexico City. President Ortega arrived on an Aeromexico flight. After Ortega left the plane with his retinue of approximately 21 people, Mexican Army soldiers, police, and security agents set up a barricade. Almost immediately and without answering questions, President Ortega entered a car that drove him to the presidential hangar, where he was met by Mexican Deputy Foreign Secretary Ricardo Valero, with whom he talked briefly.

At the presidential hangar President Ortega and six members of his retinue boarded a Falcon plane belonging to the Nicaraguan Government. The other members of the retinue returned to Nicaragua on a Lanica Airlines plane.

SEPULVEDA ON NATIONAL INTERESTS, REGIONAL CRISIS

FL250230 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 2250 GMT 24 Oct 85

[Text] United Nations, New York, 24 Oct (NOTIMEX) -- The government of President Miguel de la Madrid remains firm with respect to the problems of Central America, Mexican Secretary of Foreign Relations Bernardo Sepulveda Amor said today. During an interview on U.S. television, the Mexican foreign secretary added that the continuous deterioration of the Central American situation demands a renewed urgent search for peaceful solutions. Sepulveda, who has thus refuted rumors that Mexico would withdraw from the Contadora peace process, urged the UN General Assembly and Security Council to reactivate the negotiating process.

During the interview, the Mexican foreign secretary abstained from commenting on the Nicaraguan state of emergency. We are mediators and prefer not to judge, he said. He also said that the Central American crisis is continuing to worsen and threatens to get beyond the control of the parties to the conflict, which would bring as a consequence a regional war that would cause tremendous harm to the countries in the area and their neighbors. Sepulveda explained that in Central America Mexico is defending its national interests and that war would damage not only our interests but also the interests of the United States.

Another question from the moderator referred to the accusations that Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega has made against the U.S. Government, accusing it of practicing state terrorism and of being the only obstacle to Contadora. The secretary said only that we believe there are means to reach honorable and decent solutions. He stressed the fact that despite the Contadora efforts, the countries afflicted with the problems are the ones that have the greatest responsibility in the matter. Latin America, he explained, can make a contribution. So can the United States and Cuba. The secretary was categorical in saying that Mexico has not given up on the Central American situation. He warned, however, that if the Nicaraguan question and the Central American crisis are not resolved, Central America may become a hotspot threatening international stability. Other regional conflicts on various continents also threaten world security, he added.

DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER ON CONTADORA MEETING

PA261957 Panama City Domestic Service in Spanish 0400 GMT 25 Oct 85

[Interview with Deputy Foreign Minister Jose Maria Cabrera by unidentified reporter -- live or recorded]

[Text] Deputy Foreign Minister Jose Maria Cabrera will offer us some details on the developments of the recent meeting of Contadora deputy foreign ministers with the Central American plenipotentiaries. What progress, what achievements were reached at this meeting, Mr Deputy Foreign Minister?

[Cabrera] I believe that there was important progress at the first and, above all, at the second meeting now in which we have received the counterproposals, suggestions, and considerations of the five Central American countries to the peace document proposed by the Contadora Group on 12 September. Therefore, we have on the table the various proposals and positions of the states on the subjects and topics we must analyze, such as the reduction and control of arms, mechanisms for the fulfillment and execution of policy and security aspects, and in the field of military maneuvers -- in addition to other matters of an operational nature, such as implementation -- certain matters of a constitutional nature regarding the Central American countries for the implementation, the provisional application of some of the commitments contemplated in the document. We have received this and we must now make an evaluation of the same, a thorough, in-depth, serious, and profound analysis to identify the terms in those points where there are differing positions among two or more countries, to find a conciliatory formula that we, in our mediation role, can suggest to the countries.

[Reporter] How do you feel after participating in nearly 3 years of negotiations with the Central Americans, considering the circumstances of the region and the growing tensions, particularly in Nicaragua and neighboring countries? How do you feel as a diplomat, that is, regarding the future of Contadora?

[Cabrera] I have always maintained that in order to participate in this process one must be optimistic -- optimistic regarding our capacity to find solutions to problems through dialogue and negotiation. I believe that this optimism is present on the part of the five Central American countries and their representatives. And I believe that we should honestly stress how important it is politically that the five Central American countries have agreed to sit down at a negotiating table with the Contadora countries in the search for a political, negotiated solution to the Central American crisis. How long will this take us? I cannot say. At this moment, in this phase, we have a term of 45 days, 12 of which have elapsed. However, we are all aware of this and I have seen the desire of all the representatives to advance in this process. I have also witnessed the high degree of confidence and respect merited by the suggestions, positions, and proposals of the Contadora Group.

[Reporter] Right now you are negotiating the final points, as you have mentioned, on the aspects of arms and military maneuvers. This is certain. Are you ignoring particular circumstances that might emerge now in this period, that is, the imposition of emergency measures in Nicaragua or the Nicaraguan break of diplomatic relations with Ecuador in your interest in culminating the Contadora document? Is that correct?

[Cabrera] That is correct and that was the agreement established by the foreign ministers of the nine countries when they met here on 12 and 13 September: that no event, circumstance, or situation of a bilateral or particular nature of the Central American countries would be the subject of consideration by the plenipotentiaries' meeting. The plenipotentiaries' meeting has a precise mandate which is perfectly defined in order to work. And we cannot stray from the framework of this mandate.

EL SALVADOR

GOVERNMENT OFFICIAL KIDNAPPED IN CUSCATLAN

PA270421 Paris AFP in Spanish 0236 GMT 27 Oct 85

[Text] San Salvador, 26 Oct (AFP) -- The Director of Civil Aeronautics of El Salvador, Colonel Omar Napoleon Avalos, 43, was kidnapped on Saturday by a group of armed men, the Army has reported.

According to the official report, the kidnapping occurred at 1610 on Avalos' farm, San Ramon municipality, Cuscatlan Department.

Colonel Avalos was taken from his farm to an unknown destination in his own vehicle by a group of about 10 armed men, the report added. A spokesman for the Press Committee of the Armed Forces, (Coprefa) Colonel Armando Valencia, said that Avalos was touring his farm accompanied by his children, but it was not reported if they were also attacked.

The kidnapping took place at the San Pablo farm, about 7 kms east of Cojutepeque, capital of Cuscatlan Department, the source reported. The news about Avalos' kidnapping came at a time when Salvadoran President Napoleon Duarte was hosting a ceremony at Government House in honor of the national and foreign press in appreciation for their actions during the recent kidnapping of his daughter, Ines Guadalupe. Duarte himself was informed of the new kidnapping when he was speaking to reporters regarding the consequences of terrorism.

Coprefa announced that infantry troops, supported by helicopters, launched an operation this evening in the area of Cojutepeque in an attempt to establish Colonel Avalos' whereabouts.

Even though no group has claimed responsibility for Avalos' abduction, in military sectors it was said that "seems to be a direct insult to President Jose Napoleon Duarte" who only 2 days ago released 22 political prisoners in exchange for the release of his daughter Ines Guadalupe, kidnapped for 44 days.

Colonel Avalos, who in the past held the office of chief of the presidential General Staff, is the second high-ranking officer kidnapped in the past years.

In 1982 Colonel Adolfo Castillo, former deputy defense minister, fell into the hands of the guerrillas and was held captive for more than 2 years.

'No News' From Kidnappers

PA272001 Hamburg DPA in Spanish 1937 GMT 27 Oct 85

[Text] San Salvador, 27 Oct DPA) -- Air Force authorities today reported that they have no news on Colonel Omar Napoleon Avalos, Salvadoran Civil Aeronautics director, who was kidnapped on Saturday, and that they do not know who the kidnappers are. The kidnapping took place yesterday when the officer was in San Vicente Department, 48 km east of the capital.

According to civilian witnesses, the kidnappers took the officer to the San Vicente volcano after forcing him to accompany them while he was with his children. The plans of the guerrillas are so far unknown. They have again begun to carry out a wave of kidnappings of members of the Armed Forces.

DUARTE HANDLING OF DAUGHTER'S KIDNAPPING VIEWED

PA262106 San Salvador EL DIARIO DE HOY in Spanish 26 Oct 85 pp 5,52

[Text] The Armed Forces supported the negotiations for obtaining the release of Ines Guadalupe Duarte and Ana Cecilia Villeda at all times, [President] Jose Napoleon Duarte said 2 nights ago on television when explaining the outcome of his daughter's kidnapping.

Duarte was apparently referring in this manner to the criticism made by various political and intellectual sectors concerning the negotiations in which they insist that a nefarious precedent has been set for Salvadoran legislation, because when the terrorists were released, this was done only "following superior order" without any court decision.

Furthermore, Duarte spoke about the release of the terrorists, but did not speak of the efforts his government could make on behalf of several fishermen imprisoned in Nicaragua, charged with "spying" in the Gulf of Fonseca; or of the Salvadorans imprisoned in Costa Rica, of the ones imprisoned in Mexico for fleeing from the Salvadoran violence, or of the thousands of fellow countrymen who are imprisoned in California, United States. Duarte did not remember them, but he did ask for the release of mercenary Julio Romero Talavera, captured in January 1981 when his plane was carrying weapons for the terrorists.

The mercenary Romero Talavera was received "with honors in Costa Rica, his home country, where many Salvadorans are imprisoned and nobody remembers them," a businessman said yesterday.

Meanwhile, it is reported that the released terrorists left yesterday morning, without any objections, for Cuba and Mexico, countries that have become "the sanctuary" of subversion. Those who arrived in Cuba were led by Nidia Diaz and another individual.

The big question yesterday among the juridical circles in El Salvador was: "Where is the authority of our president?" Another question was: How can President Duarte explain to the people that law prevails in this country?

In other words, doubts are arising among the various circles, because now when a terrorist group has some of its people imprisoned, all they have to do is kidnap a relative "of those who are in the hierarchy" and obtain their release regardless of the bloodshed of our soldiers who made their sacrifices on the battlefields defending what little democracy we have left, a lawyer said.

RELEASED REBELS INTERVIEWED IN PANAMA CITY

FL252130 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 1810 GMT 25 Oct 85

[By Anamaria Lasso, correspondent]

[Text] Panama City, 25 Oct (NOTIMEX) -- Only one strong action obtained the release of political prisoners and those wounded in war, despite the Ayagualo agreements in connection with the humanization of the conflict, representatives from the Farabundo Marti Liberation Front [FMLN] have said here.

Commander Nidia Diaz and FMLN leader Santiago Rueda agreed on this as they were interviewed last night upon their arrival at the country's military airport as part of the exchange for the release of the Salvadoran president's daughter, Ines Duarte, who was kidnapped by the guerrillas.

Commander Nidia, Rueda, and the Honduran doctor Marcelino Reyes arrived today before dawn after they were released along with 19 political prisoners and 71 wounded in war. The FMLN's slogan of peace with justice and freedom was called again at the Panamanian Air Force air terminal by the commander who participated in the first round of talks at La Palma.

Visibly tired and in poor physical condition, Diaz indicated her willingness to reinvolve herself in combat, and underscored that the release of political prisoners and those wounded in war was a political and military victory for the FMLN.

She also stressed that the exchange took place in guerrilla-controlled territory which shows the Army's deterioration and the FMLN's progress in the entire national territory.

She pointed out that Duarte's government did not keep their promise of humanizing the conflict, as agreed during the second and last round of talks held in Ayagualo at the end of November.

Diaz said that out of the 34 claimed prisoners for the exchange, the government could only release 22 because they considered the rest missing. She explained her survival during her incarceration was due to the struggle for the respect of human rights the people's organizations are carrying out in her country.

As she talked about her capture last April, Diaz said a U.S. military adviser was leading the military operation.

Finally, she asserted that negotiated solutions can be reached if there is political will which is evident in this case.

Rueda, as he was interviewed by NOTIMEX said the dialogue between government and guerrillas had not made progress and a war action, such as the kidnapping of Ines Duarte, was necessary for political prisoners and those wounded in war to be released. He mentioned another FMLN action to obtain the release of political prisoners against Mariona Jail, considered of high security. At that time, the destruction of a section of the jail allowed over 100 prisoners to escape. The majority of them were common criminals.

Rueda said that, at that time, the majority of the political prisoners did not take advantage of the opportunity offered by their comrades because they suspected it was a maneuver planned by the authorities to kill them while they escaped. Rueda explained that the Pedro Pablo Castillo Front which kidnapped Ines Duarte took their name from the political prisoners organization with the same name, incarcerated in Salvadoran prisons, inasmuch their aim was to free those prisoners.

Out of the 74 guerrilla fighters arriving in Panama, some of them went immediately to Cuba in a Cuban plane, which was waiting at the Panamanian Air Force terminal. Others will only stay a few days in this country waiting to travel to different places in Europe. Most of the combatants appeared to be in poor health, some of them were in stretchers, others were amputees.

Ambassadors from Colombia, France, and Sweden participated in the operation transferring the rebels to Panama while the Panamanian Government and General Manuel Antonio Noriega, commander in chief of the Defense Forces, participated in the actual exchange negotiations, according to official sources.

GUATEMALA

MEJIA VICTORES ON REBEL OPPOSITION TO ELECTIONS

PA260017 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2254 GMT 25 Oct 85

[By Carlos Rodolfo Mobil]

[Text] Guatemala City, 25 Oct (ACAN-EFE) -- The Guatemalan guerrillas will do everything possible to interrupt the electoral process that will end with the upcoming 3 November elections, Guatemala Chief of State General Oscar Mejia Victores stated today.

In statements to the newspaper EL GRAFICO of this capital, Gen Mejia Victores said that the principal objective of the rebels is to prevent "the installing in Guatemala of a democratic, popularly elected government."

On 3 November the Guatemalans will elect the first civilian president since 1970, the year in which a long chain of military governments began to exercise power.

Citing police sources, the newspaper affirmed that the authorities are afraid that there may be a plan to sabotage the elections. "Police chiefs have revealed that that institution fears that the elections may be affected by acts of violence," EL GRAFICO reported.

"It is also feared," the newspaper added, "that the Supreme Electoral Tribunal may be infiltrated to obtain information that could later be used to cause unrest and chaos among the citizens."

The Guatemalan police force has said that it does not dismiss the possibility that there may be disturbances in urban sectors before the elections and that there may be intimidations, kidnappings, or assassinations of political leaders or members of the electoral authority.

Two candidates for mayor in the interior part of the country, one of the National Revolutionary Party (PNR) [as received] and another of the Democratic Party of National Cooperation (PDCN-PR) were assassinated by unidentified persons this week.

The headquarters of the Guatemalan Christian Democratic Party was also the target of an attack Wednesday night when unidentified persons opened machine-gun fire on the installations from a moving vehicle, causing only material damage.

The Guatemalan rebels have staged a series of military actions in the past weeks and in at least 7 of the 22 departments of the country, which appears to be an undeclared campaign against the elections.

The editorial of EL GRAFICO summed up this situation in the following manner today: "Our attention is powerfully drawn by the fact that for a long time it seemed as if there were no guerrillas in the country, suddenly in the past few weeks there are outbreaks in El Peten, Quiche, Baja Verapaz, Retalhuleu, Suchitepeauez, Solola, and Huehuetenango."

More than 25 persons have been killed in the past week in Guatemala in different rebel actions. Among the victims was the Norweigan honorary consul in Guatemala, Norman Do Lind, who was killed in a terrorist attack.

Ranking military leaders have said that the rebels will not be able to hinder the electoral process because the Army is maintaining tight vigilance throughout the country.

Subversion 'Has Increased'

PA260448 Guatemala City Radio Television Guatemala in Spanish 0400 GMT 25 Oct 85

[Passages within quotation marks recorded]

[Text] Head of State Oscar Mejia Victores today admitted that subversion has increased in Guatemala but said he is optimistic the Army will be able to counter this. Mejia Victores condemned the death of four landowners, which took place yesterday between Santa Barbara and Patulul, Suchitepequez, when the small airplane in which they were travelling landed in an area mined by the guerrillas. Today National Police explosive experts inspected the landing strip at Finca Panama, where the tragedy took place. The investigators established that a 25-lb explosive caused the explosion that destroyed the small airplane. General Mejia Victores was asked today about the investigations being carried out concerning this event.

"[Mejia Victores] The reports say a Claymore mine had been placed on the strip and the subversives detonated the device when the airplane taxied over it.

"[Unidentified reporter] Are there any clashes in that region?

"[Mejia Victores] In all the regions; we are fighting in all the regions. You know that a subversive war has been going on for 25 years; things are calm in one area, and things break out in another, so it is difficult to achieve a complete peace as long as this tendency towards totalitarianism prevails in the country."

The funeral of the victims from a terrorist action in Santa Barbara, Suchitepequez, took place this morning in this capital. Meanwhile, General Mejia Victores ruled out the possibility that the fact that the Norwegian consul was among the dead could represent a problem for Guatemala on a diplomatic level.

"[Mejia Victores] I do not think so, because this is not a political crime; it is a subversive action and could involve any citizen from any country. We have had worse problems on other occasion when ambassadors have died. I think that they did not know a consul was flying with the group. He was flying with a man who owns a coffee farm, and they were going to see the farm. He was not going as a consul; no one knew he was a consul. The subversives only knew that rich people were travelling in the airplane."

The terrorist action cannot be conceived as aimed against a particular person, much less against someone who had a consular or diplomatic post, the head of state said.

"[Mejia Victores] This has nothing to do with the diplomatic post he had; this would involve another type of situation. When the diplomats have to travel they request the Foreign Ministry's authorization to travel around the country, and we have the obligation to give them a note so that their diplomatic status is respected."

Mejia Victores was also asked about the latest acts of violence within the pre-electoral activities, particularly the murder of a deputy candidate in Panzos, Alta Verapaz, which was denounced yesterday by the PR [Revolutionary Party]-PDCN [Democratic Party of National Cooperation] coalition.

"[Mejia Victores] I could not readily say if political, common, or subversive violence provoked the death of this candidate in Panzos. You should recall that Panzos has a long history concerning subversive problems, and this type of situation may have taken place."

The head of state implied that the presidential candidates' security systems make it unnecessary for the government forcces to provide reinforcements.

"[Mejia Victores] They are really secure; I wish I had their security forces."

In addition, Mejia Victores referred to the authorization requested by labor sectors to hold demonstrations on 2 November, that is, on the eve of the elections.

"[Mejia Victores] They have not requested my permission; I think they have sent it through the corresponding channels, but I have not received it so I cannot analyze it yet.

"[Unidentified reporter] What would happen if they issue a call for abstentionism?

"[Mejia Victores] I could not do a thing if they did; if the others heed this anti-patriotic call it would be a bad thing.

"[Reporter] [Words indistinct] demonstration 1 day before the elections?

"[Mejia Victores] The electoral law forbids this so we will not allow it. Once I receive the document, and if I do not authorize their request for that day, I might authorize it for the following Saturday.

"[Reporter] After the elections?

"[Mejia Victores] After the elections."

NICARAGUA

REAGAN, ORTEGA MEET AT NEW YORK RECEPTION

PA251458 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0300 GMT 24 Oct 85

[Text] New York -- U.S. President Ronald Reagan and Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega met for the first time at a reception in New York held on the occasion of the 40th anniversary of the United Nations, but they merely exchanged laconic courtesy statements. Pleased to meet you, said Reagan, as he received the Nicaraguan leader at a reception hosted in honor of the personalities attending the UN ceremony. Thank you for inviting me, Commander Ortega answered.

Commander Ortega later held a brief conversation with Secretary of State George Shultz and with New York Mayor Edward Koch, always within the framework of courtesy and protocol.

Reagan 'Refused' Meeting

PA251501 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0300 GMT 24 Oct 85

[Text] United Nations -- President Daniel Ortega said today at the United Nations that unless the United States participates in the Contadora negotiations, peace cannot be achieved in Central America. The Nicaraguan president said that since the United States is the most belligerent and destabilizing element in Central Amerca, it should become involved in the Contadora negotiations. He also pointed out that although the United States is the most belligerent element and the biggest destabilizer, it wants to act as judge in the Central American conflict.

Meanwhile, U.S. President Ronald Reagan today refused to meet with our president. Instead, the U.S. Government wanted its envoy for Central America, Harry Shlaudeman, to meet with President Ortega. Later, the U.S. Government wanted Shlaudeman to meet with Foreign Minister D'Escoto. However, the revolutionary government suggested a meeting between Deputy Foreign Minister Nora Astorga and Ambassador Shlaudeman, but the U.S. Government rejected this suggestion. Reagan's government has thus reaffirmed its political determination to continue waging war on our country.

ORTEGA CRITICIZES U.S. 'WAR OF AGGRESSION'

PA252334 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 1828 GMT 25 Oct 85

[Concluding statement made by President Daniel Ortega at the end of the "Face the People" program held with members of Nicaraguan solidarity groups at an unidentified location in New York City on 25 October -- recorded; broadcast in progress]

[Text]... Most of the people in my delegation speak the language more or less. I would have preferred to talk with you in English. Don't think that I do not speak English because of my anti-imperialist feelings. [laughter] It does not go that far. I never had the time to learn English, and I still don't. The idiomatic barriers among nations can be overcome by sincerity. [30 second break in transmission]

We are waging an unequal struggle. The U.S. Government has enormous resources compared to those of Nicaragua and what Nicaragua's friends here in the United States can provide. The U.S. Government has the means to make false reports against Nicaragua, and then we have a hard time trying to rectify such reports. The U.S. Government reported before our arrival that we had cancelled the tour we were going to make to several states, because we were afraid to face U.S. opinion, after we had decreed the state of emergency. We have evidence that this is absolutely false, but what can we do to let the U.S. people know the truth?

We sent the passports of the members of our delegation far in advance of our trip to the U.S. Embassy, about 15 days in advance. Here is my passport. We should have left for the United States on 18 October. But on 9 October, the U.S. Embassy issued me a visa valid only for the United Nations. Under the circumstances, we could not hope to travel outside of New York City, and we had to let our friends know we could not make it because our visa was only valid to travel to the United Nations. We had already been notified by the U.S. Embassy that it would issue us a restricted visa. Then on 17 October, just a few hours before our departure time in the afternoon, they gave us back our passports, cancelling the first visa they had issued us, which was restricted to the United Nations, and issuing us another on 17 October without any restrictions. This is just an example of how the U.S. Government manipulates the news against Nicaragua. This also explains the way the U.S. Government is reporting to the people of the United States the state of emergency in our country, which already existed.

In May this year, we embarked on a trip to the USSR, and to other socialist countries, to Yugoslavia and Western Europe. The U.S. news media underscored our trip to Moscow. It was presented as something sinful. If the United States had to revise its relations with all the governments that have relations with Moscow and that go to Moscow, I think that the United States would end up being alone in the world. Who doesn't go to Moscow nowadays? We would also like to go to Washington. [applause] We would like to go to Washington and have good talks with the U.S. President and have friendly relations with the U.S. Government, and respectful relations, just as we have with the USSR.

The reportage on my trip to Moscow was manipulated here. It was presented as something horrible. The U.S. news media does not pay too much attention to the trips that world leaders make to Moscow. However, since it was Nicaragua, which the U.S. Government is watching with a magnifying glass, then it showed great interest.

When we decided on this trip to the USSR, to the socialist countries, and to Western European countries, we had learned that the U.S. Government would soon impose an embargo against Nicaragua.

We also had a very crucial problem -- an oil shortage. A country without oil is a country where everything comes to a halt, a country that is heading to its death. Therefore, we had to do everything we could in order to find solutions to the problems resulting from the oil shortage, and also to face the problems that would come as a result of the U.S. embargo and economic blockade.

In the afternoon of 1 May of this year I was talking with the Yugoslav president in Belgrade, and at that time I mentioned to him that the United States would declare the embargo at any moment. We were still at the meeting when we heard that the U.S. Government had announced its embargo against Nicaragua in Bonn.

Now, what did we accomplish from our trip to the Socialist countries, Yugoslavia, and West Europe? It meant a very important economic cooperation to ensure the country's survival. We were facing oil problems, and the embargo. The Socialist countries and Yugoslavia granted us cooperation amounting to $200 million, and the West European countries, mainly Spain, France, Italy, Finland, Sweden, the Netherlands, and Belgium -- which were immediately visited by our companero vice president -- authorized a total of $220 million. This made a total of $420 million, which helped Nicaragua face the difficulties resulting from the blockade and the oil shortage.

Now, what was more important for Nicaragua? To refrain from upsetting and giving the U.S. Government the propagandistic weapons to misinform the U.S. public allowing the Nicaraguan economy to collapse, or to make the tour and take the risk that the U.S. Government would manipulate this action, as it did. For us, it was a question of life or death, and logically, we could not commit suicide. [applause]

Shortly before making this trip to the United Nations, we had to announce an expansion of the emergency restrictions. We were aware that this decision was not going to be easily understood abroad. We knew that our friends in the United States and in other parts of the world would be in a difficult spot due to the propagandistic manipulation that the U.S. Government and reactionary sectors in various parts of the world would make around the establishment of the state of emergency in Nicaragua. But again, it was necessary then to expand the emergency measures. We could have waited perhaps until after I returned from the United Nations, but we did not feel that it was the right thing to do. What would have happened if we had come to New York as if nothing was going to happen -- logically, a measure like this would be kept secret, and therefore I would not have told anyone here about these plans -- and then announced the measures upon returning to Nicaragua? What would our friends who are now in the United States have said?

Some people who are concerned over the situation in the region, but who do not really understand the problem would have considered this treason. They would have said: The Nicaraguan delegation came here, met with us, everything seemed to be in order, they manipulated us, and then went home and implemented emergency measures.

So even though we could have played a little with the timing, we chose to act openly and clearly, without any type of subterfuge, and to face the reaction. We decided to come here to explain the reasons for the measure, and why it was just and correct. We are waging important clashes against the mercenary forces, and we are dealing important blows to the mercenary forces. [applause]

Our goal is to neutralize the mercenary forces' offensive capacity, and we cannot possibly think that we will be able to annihilate all the mercenaries. We are going to neutralize their offensive capacity. You are well aware that no battle is won by annihilating to the very last soldier when you fight against the enemy. Battles are won by annihilating the enemy's fighting morale. When the enemy has no combat morale, he has no combat spirit even if he is armed to the teeth and his pockets are bulging with money; he is destined to suffer a defeat.

How are we waging this battle? We are waging it with the Nicaraguan people's support. We could not possibly wage this fight without the Nicaraguan people's support. [applause] We have turned over the weapons to the peasants, workers, and youths in order to wage this battle. The Patriotic Military Service has been, and continues to be, a decisive instrument in this battle; consequently, the enemy is well aware of this. The enemy knows that if he manages to develop a campaign against the Patriotic Military Service in Nicaragua and the service's goals are not achieved, then the counterrevolution will be able to resume the offensive. Thus, the CIA has been moving its tentacles in our country in an attempt to provoke a rejection of the Patriotic Military Service among our people.

In addition, we have a serious economic problem. The U.S. Government's strategists have said -- Mr Elliott Abrams recently said -- that the destruction of the Nicaraguan economy continues to be their goal. They believe that if they destroy the Nicaraguan economy the people will be unhappy with the revolution, and then the counterrevolution will have better conditions for its success. The Nicaraguan economy has been seriously affected by the international economic problems that also affect all of Latin America. According to international organizations, we should be exporting $1 billion every year and we will barely manage to export $300 million in the 1985-86 period. However, those who think that the Nicaraguan people will be unhappy because the economy has collapsed are totally wrong. That is the U.S. Government's mistaken idea.

In our country, we have taken education, health centers, schools, child development centers, cooperatives, and agricultural machinery to zones where these kinds of benefits for the people had never existed before. [applause] Consequently, the people know that the revolution has built schools and has given them benefits.

This is why the people have fought the mercenary forces with so much energy, firmness, and such high morale. However, the people know that the school built by this revolution was destroyed by the mercenary forces the U.S. Government directs. The people know that the health center built by the revolution was destroyed by the counterrevolution the U.S. Government directs. The same mercenary forces were the ones that destroyed the people's machinery, tractors, and agricultural cooperative; the same forces who killed them, their family, their women and children.

It is true that the people are displeased, but they are displeased with the policy of the U.S. Government. [applause]

Within the situation of the acute economic crisis caused by a war and the international political crisis, some leftist and ultraleftist groups are carrying out their propaganda and making speeches to the workers. They are telling the workers that the Nicaraguan private sector must be eliminated, that higher wages must be demanded -- up to 100 percent of the current wages, presenting economic demands that are out of touch with the Nicaraguan reality. These groups urge the workers to declare work stoppages, strikes, take-overs of the companies, that is, a virtual sabotage of the economy. This is the situation, and we cannot forget what happened in Chile. [applause] Chile had a constitutional government, Salvador Allende's government; government that reached power through elections. Allende's government always respected the legal and internal order; it respected the laws. It even had legal instruments to invoke a state of emergency; however, Allende refused to do so. It is true that the Chilean economy began to experience a crisis during Popular Unity government, but it is also true that when municipal elections were held, the Popular Unity government got greater support from the people than the support it received during the presidential elections. The Chilean economic crisis was worsened by a U.S. plan drafted by the CIA; however, this plan failed in its attempt to create unrest between the Chilean people and the Popular Unity government.

Despite the fact that the means used to destabilize Chile were more sophisticated and less brutal than the means used against Nicaragua, the Chilean people were not fooled, and the support for the Popular Unity government continued to grow despite the economic crisis. Even though Salvador Allende had the instruments to defend the legally constituted government, he did not. Everyone knew that the CIA was working to destabilize the Allende government, that the CIA was working through the Chilean press to destabilize the government with the help of certain economic sectors and trade unions. Everyone knew that the CIA was promoting the destabilization of a democratically established government.

And what were the results of the Chilean tragedy? The plan for the destruction of a popular and democratic government succeeded. The streets of Chile were flooded with the blood of the Chilean people, including the blood of Salvador Allende. After Salvador Allende's death, solidarity with the Chilean people was expressed. We would rather not have post-mortem solidarity. [applause] That is the dilemma we are facing. We have a legitimately constituted government; much more legitimate than many governments that are recognized and accepted by the U.S. Government. [applause] We are confronted with a war of aggression on the part of the U.S. Government, and the President of the United States himself ratified this yesterday before the United Nations. They would like for us to open all the doors into our country to erode us internally and do to us exactly the same as they did to Salvador Allende. [applause] However, we feel that the Chilean experience should serve as an example to the peoples. [applause]

We had a choice of keeping our friends abroad happy at the cost of delivering a dead revolution in the short term, or keeping this revolution alive despite some confusion or misunderstanding on the part of some governments. [applause] The truth is that we had no other choice but to decree the state of emergency. But by establishing the state of emergency, and by expanding the state of emergency, we are not denying the pluralist principles or determination for a mixed economy and nonalignment of our revolution. We have not banned any political party in our country; all the political parties continue to hold their meetings at their headquarters. But, if they wish to hold a public demonstration or a meeting they must request permission.

I do not know if we could hold a demonstration here and take to the streets shouting: Long live Nicaragua! Can one do that here? [Shouting and applause] We could do it but it would be against the law because we did not request permission. Here they say that the problem is the traffic jam these demonstrations cause; [laughter and applause] in Nicaragua they are not allowed for more serious reasons. We must protect the lives of the Nicaraguans. [applause] This is one of the most difficult things for Nicaraguan society; they are not as concerned about material destruction as they are about the loss of human life. [sentence as heard]

Yesterday the President of the United States gave, as an example of his love for life, the story of the Mexican boy who was rescued from the rubble. The Mexican boy was rescued by Mexicans; President Reagan could rescue thousands of children and youths if he abided by the principles he claims to defend, against the brutal policy of apartheid in South Africa. [applause]

We are carrying out a revolution in our country which corresponds to the characteristics of our region, which is based on our historical roots, and is a solution in accordance with our own situation. We are engaged in a struggle to improve the people's situation. We have a different model to be developed, which has its own characteristics in Nicaragua's case, from the one in Cuba. The important thing is that we are developing revolutionary changes in Nicaragua in accordance with our own reality. Cuban social development was different in many ways from social development in Nicaragua at the time of the revolution's victory.

For example, in Cuba they did not have to face a situation like the one we have such as solving the rights and problemas of the Indian groups. The Nicaraguan society is a society of peasants and craftsmen, not a highly developed society. There are small workers groups and a limited [changes thought] small industrial development; we have many small- and medium-sized farms, peasants and agricultural workers who work in the countryside. Consequently, we must bear in mind this situation. We are carrying out an autonomy process for the population in the Atlantic Coast and the companero rightly said that his is an unprecedented effort in Latin America. We are engaged in this process and we are sure that it will bear fruit and definitely restore peace out there, in the Atlantic Coast of Nicaragua. The problems in the area are being solved on the spot, with the people who have settled in those areas. Miskitos, Sumu, Rama, Creoles! Miskitos, Sumu, Rama, Creoles! Miskitos, Sumu, Rama, Creoles! [applause]

These are Nicaraguan Atlantic coast communities which are holding direct talks with the government. They are also talking, cooperating with, and helping the Army. The negotiations carried out abroad have not yielded any results. It is here that we are obtaining some results among the people who are struggling and suffering. We are certain that the problem is going to be solved.

Now, as to the problem of who to believe: This is a really difficult problem, especially for our friends who want to know the truth about the Nicaraguan revolution. A strong factor in our favor is that Nicaragua is an open-door society. Any U.S. citizen wishing to go to Nicaragua can do so without any problem. We think it is important that U.S. citizens come to our country where they can talk and go wherever they want to find out the truth.

Just causes are powerful and invincible. [applause] Just causes are usually confronted by problems similar to the ones the Nicaraguan revolution is facing.

We are not an economic or military power, yet we are confronting the United States with its overwhelming military and economic resources. From the material standpoint we are already at a loss when compared to the United States. Ours is a moral battle. The moral strength, the truth, and history are on our side. Therefore, the revolution... [public interrupts with applause]. However, the revolution will pull forward, despite so many setbacks, confusion, and problems. We will continue struggling to make the dream of the American people and of the Nicaraguan people and government a reality, [applause] because then we will have peace and true friendship between the U.S. Government and the people and Government of Nicaragua. [applause] This is what we are struggling for. The Nicaraguan people are particularly grateful to the American people who have committed themselves to this struggle, and for their daily efforts, their dedication, and unselfish sacrifices. We are sure that one day we will achieve final victory. Thank you very much. [prolonged applause, shouts]

ORTEGA CITES 'LEGITIMATE RIGHT TO DEFENSE'

Surface-To-Air Missiles

PA261531 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0300 GMT 26 Oct 85

[Questioners in recorded passage unidentified]

[Text] Nicaraguan President Commander Deniel Ortega revealed today that our country has short and medium-range surface-to-air missiles [cohetes] for the purpose of exercising the legitimate right to defense. President Ortega said this to U.S. television networks, including NBC.

Commander Ortega justified Nicaragua's right to defend itself, including its right to have antiaircraft means and interception airplanes. Here are the remarks by President Ortega in New York:

[Begin recording in process] [Ortega] ...to launch [words indistinct] against Nicaragua. I think that just as there have been...[transmission of recording interrupted and then begun again] We have claimed our right as any sovereign nation to have antiaircraft weapons to defend the country. The antiaircraft means include the interception airplane. (?This is) established in all parts of the world. What we have at this time are defensive means such as machineguns, antiaircraft guns, and surface-to-air missiles of a limited range. We do not have long-range surface-to-air missiles. We just have those of a limited range. We have these things to defend the country from an air attack; to be in a position to face the logistic support being given to the counterrevolution; and also to stop an air attack like the one carried out several years ago against the Sandino International Airport, or against any economic or military installation, as has occurred in the past.

[Question] It has been said that Nicaragua has long-range missiles...

[Ortega] What we have are short-and medium-range missiles [proyectiles]. We do not have long-range missiles. We have limited range missiles.

[Question] Are you expecting to receive long-range missiles?

[Ortega] We maintain Nicaragua's right to have the means necessary to defend the country. We have also said we are willing to accept a freeze on the introduction of weapons in Central America as long as it is a general measure and it takes place within a framework of peace and security between the United States and Nicaragua.

[Question] What if the United States and the USSR reach an agreement in Switzerland about aid to Nicaragua?

[Ortega] First, we must realize that the Central American problem must be solved by Latin Americans, by Central Americans, [words indistinct] the whole world. What must be defended here, what we are sure will be defended is the Nicaraguan people's right to self-determination and their independence. It is not a matter of involving the Nicaraguan people in the East-West conflict. This is a matter of self-determination as established in the UN Charter. President Reagan said yesterday that he defended and and respected the Charter, but in real life he does not respect it and does not fulfill it.

[Question indistinct]

[Ortega] We feel that the peoples and governments of the world are defending the Nicaragua's people right to self-determination and independence.

[Question indistinct]

[Ortega] I do not see any reason, because our problem is not an East-West problem. What we are demanding is respect for self-determination, for the independence of the Nicaraguan people, and the UN Charter as President Reagan said yesterday, even though in practice he contradicts himself. [passage indistinct]

[Question] Are you sure that your problem will be discussed during the summit [words indistinct]?

[Ortega] If the problem is discussed in the summit, I am sure that what will be defended there will be the Nicaraguan people's right to self-determination and independence. The Nicaraguan people [word indistinct] will not be negotiated.

[Question] Do you think the United States will change its opinion after the summit with Gorbachev?

[Ortega] We hope that the United States will understand that Nicaragua wants peace and friendship with the United States, and that this is possible as long as there is a willingness and a determination to achieve this on the part of the United States. [end recording]

Holds News Conference

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[News conference by President Commander of the Revolution Daniel Ortega Saavedra at the Augusto Cesar Sandino International Airport in Managua following his arrival from the United Nations -- live]

[Text] [Ortega] Good afternoon. Upon our return from the United Nations we send greetings to the Nicaraguan people, especially to our soldiers, peasants, laborers, and youths who are defending our revolution with their rifles and production.

We went to the United States to take Nicaragua's message for peace. We also went to present specific proposals to the U.S. Government, the main destabilizer in the Central American region, for it to take specific steps in favor of peace. However, we did not find receptiveness on the part of the U.S. Government. In his speech on 24 October on the occasion of the UN anniversary, the U.S. President ratified his policy of disrespect for the self-determination and independence of the peoples. This provoked a rejection among those of us who were gathered there. It was like a bucket of cold water on all the delegations who were expecting a more reasonable attitude from the U.S. President.

Within the framework of the celebration of the 40th anniversary, we also met with UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar, and with Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi, president of the Nonaligned Movement. We met with Prime Minister Gandhi on several occasions, and he again expressed his solidarity with the Nicaraguan people, officially invited me to visit India, and reiterated India's willingness, as president of the Nonaligned Movement, to continue putting forth efforts in favor of self-determination, independence, and peace in the Central American region.

We also met with more than 10 heads of state and governments. We met with European, Western European, socialist community, and Latin American leaders who were attending the celebrations. We also met with high-ranking U.S. Government officials; however, we did not discuss any topics in depth.

We exchanged greetings with President Reagan, we spoke with U.S. Secretary of State Shultz, U.S. UN Ambassador Vernon Walters, Mayor Koch of New York, and other U.S. officials.

During our stay in New York we also had the opportunity to make direct contact with the U.S. people. We made direct contact with U.S. solidarity and following all these direct and public meetings that were organized in New York, as well as meetings with the press and television, we appeared on some very important U.S. television programs. We are very pleased with the receptiveness and understanding we found in the U.S. people concerning the Nicaraguan situation and the measures we have been forced to take in order to defend the democratic process in our country.

This visit was a very good opportunity to speak directly to the U.S. people and the solidarity groups and discuss situations that arise, on many occasions, as an aftermath of the misinformation campaign that the U.S. Government maintains against Nicaragua in the United States.

Last night we also met with the New York Bar Association and also held meetings with several solidarity groups within the United States.

In this manner we have given you a brief summary of what our trip to New York and the United Nations was like.

On our way to New York we made a stopover in Mexico City and met with Mexican President Miguel de la Madrid, with whom we discussed the regional situation. We spoke of the burning problems of the region; the situation that Nicaragua faces; and the peacemaking efforts of the Contadora Group.

Logically, Nicaragua continues to support the Contadora peace efforts, and feels that the United States -- and this was confirmed by President Reagan's speech on 24 October -- is the one hindering the Contadora Group's peace efforts. By trying to include the Central American conflict in theEast-West confrontation, President Reagan dealt a serious blow to the Contadora Group's peace efforts. By saying that the U.S. Government is going to continue to support the mercenary activities, President Reagan dealt another harsh blow to the peace efforts for Central America. However, this should not undermine the actions of the Latin American countries, which we are sure are redoubling efforts, are defending and will continue to defend the right to self-determination, to independence, and peace of the Central American area, and peace in Latin America. This is what we have to say.

[Alvarez Montalban] Mr. President, this is Eligio Alvarez Montalban of Radio Sandino. After President Reagan's speech at the United Nations, some U.S. media and even a well-known local newspaper have been saying that the November Gorbachev-Reagan summit could become a new version of the 1945 Yalta Conference in which, according to the same sources, not only bilateral Soviet-U.S. matters would be negotiated, but also pending regional problems, such as those involving Cambodia, Afghanistan, Ethiopia, Angola, and Nicaragua, as President Reagan himself mentioned in his speech last Thursday. What is your opinion on this, and what information did you gather in this regard right in the heart of the empire?

[Ortega] As I said, President Reagan's speech did not receive the acceptance he expected, neither at the United Nations, nor from the U.S. Public. It was not consonant with the desire for peace prevailing within the United Nations on the occasion of its 40th anniversary. The Soviet Union has already expressed on several occasions its respect for self-determination and independence of peoples, and in this particular case, of the Nicaraguan people. During the talks we have had with the Soviet leaders, they have always expressed their support for the Nicaraguan people's right to self-determination. We are sure that when this subject comes up at the summit, the USSR is not going to play the game proposed by the United States, and instead will reiterate its support for Nicaragua's right to self-determination, independence, and sovereignty. We believe that this should also be the policy of the U.S. Goverment. In this manner, the U.S. Government would not find itself in a difficult situation in various parts of the world, in several regions provoking conflicts, and worsening political, social, and military situations.

[Chamorro] This Xiomara Chamorro, for (?C S). On this same subject, Commander, what is your opinion regarding the fact that the United States has agreed to discuss the Central American conflict with the USSR?

[Ortega] We realize that during a meeting between two powerful countries such as the USSR and the United States, it is expected that they will discuss all the problems affecting the world. However, to believe that the meeting will end with a division of the world, in my opinion, can only be conceived within the U.S. Government's mentality.

[Suarez] I am Rolando Suarez, of the Cuban newspaper TRABAJADORES. Mr President, you have referred to your direct contact with the American people. Within this contact, do you see any possibility of visiting the nine U.S. cities you had planned to visit?

[Ortega] We explained to the American people that we had to cancel this tour because the visa granted by the U.S. Government on 8 October was restricted to the United Nations, and that it was not until a few hours before our departure on the afternoon of 17 October that we received another visa, this time without any restrictions, when we had already canceled our tour. However, anticipating this situation, we had already convoked a meeting in New York with representatives of solidarity groups from various U.S. states. This meeting was held, and we believe that it was highly positive.

[Unidentified reporter] Commander Ortega, you have said that in addition to taking a message of peace to the United Nations, you also had specific proposals for concrete steps Reagan should take. Did you have a chance to express these specific proposals directly?

[Ortega] We made the proposal at the United Nations, during our 21 October speech. During our personal contacts with President Reagan and other top U.S. Government officials we did not consider it convenient to discuss these subjects, since the proposal had already been made, and we were waiting for President Reagan's reply on 24 October, the day on which he was scheduled to speak.

[Unidentified reporter] My name is [words indistinct] from Australian Radio and Television. Mr President, now that your call to President Reagan has been rejected, what will be your next step, and what does this rejection mean for Nicaragua's security?

[Ortega] We cannot give up or dismiss our efforts to achieve this dialogue, a dialogue in which the United States and Nicaragua would sit down to discuss the normalization of our relations. While at the United Nations, we learned that there was an interest in contacts with U.S. Government officials at another level. Specifically, prior to our departure, the possibility of a meeting with Assistant Secretary of State for Inter-American Affairs Elliott Abrams and Harry Shlaudeman had been mentioned. Later on, the possibility of a meeting [2-second break in transmission] Abrams, only with Shlaudeman.

Logically, since we had other commitments, we could not attend these meetings, but there were other Foreign Ministry officials who were willing to attend these meetings. The meetings were not held, but the contacts were made to see if we can obtain some positive result from that meeting. It should not be just a tactical move by the administration, filling out papers before the U.S. Congress in view of the administration's commitment when the issue of the $27 million was discussed. At that time, the administration committed itself to hold a dialogue with Nicaragua. We hope this interest voiced now by the U.S. officials, who will be received by our ambassador in Washington, will be something serious and not just a tactical move by the administration for Congress' benefit. Nicaragua is willing to resume dialogue with the United States in order to discuss the bilateral relations, to seek to normalize bilateral relations, to use a framework of (?mutual) security. We have no reason to meet with the United States to discuss a Nicaraguan internal issue. We discuss the internal issues of Nicaragua here, in Nicaragua, and we solve them here, in Nicaragua.

[Salgado] President Ortega, Carlos Salgado, of the "Here's Nicaragua" newscast. I have two questions: One, what, in your opinion, was the international reaction to the state of emergency ordered on 15 October, and two, when are you planning to accept the official invitation extended by Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi?

[Ortega] As for the state of emergency, naturally it has had an international impact. The European leaders with whom we met, particularly those from Western Europe, were concerned and understanding. They were understanding over the application of the measure, and concerned because, logically, rightist forces are moving within those countries and avail themselves of opportunities such as this to see how they can vary the policies of those governments concerning Nicaragua. However, the important thing is that we found them understanding concerning the state of emergency. We explained the reasons for these measures, particularly that these are resources of governments democratically established in any part of the world to face emergency situations. We observe how emergency measures are used in other Latin American countries to confront emergency situations. The Nicaraguan case is a very particular case because this is not just a matter of facing a problem of internal destabilization, but a matter of facing a problem of external aggression.

As for the invitation extended by the Indian prime minister, actually he has made that invitation several times. We are sorry we have not yet been able to accept, but we hope to visit India later on, at an opportune time. Foreign Minister Father D'Escoto is going to India next month on an official visit, and later we will also have the opporunity to visit India.

[Reporter] President Ortega, we wanted to consult you about a problem. Some time ago, the U.S. media published a secret document that said the United States might have something new to bring up against Contadora. Some media are now talking about the U.S. President's proposal as a possible alternative to Contadora. What do you think about this, and what are the possibilities this will be used as of now, by the administration as an alternative?

[Ortega] I think that the proposal made by President Reagan on 24 October is completely obsolete. It is a proposal that is not in line with reality and which will not be received well.

[Reporter] Commander Ortega, Commander [as heard] Reagan's speech is once again practically a declaration of war against Nicaragua, when he said he will continue supporting the so-called freedom fighters. This once again brings up the possibility of a direct U.S. invasion, because we have the internal war just the same. It also brings up the issue of defense. Yesterday, you spoke over a U.S. television network and mentioned various types of armaments, antiaircraft armaments. You also referred to a question on medium- and short-range missiles. How is Nicaragua going to face this situation now, the problem of the country's defense?

[Ortega] Actually, President Reagan is the commander of the U.S. Armed Forces. He has upheld a policy of threats against Nicaragua and actions entailed by that policy. The logic of U.S. aggression is to attack Nicaragua, that Nicaragua should not defend itself, in order to easily eliminate the Nicaraguan revolution. We have been making use of a sovereign right as a state, and we will continue to make use of that right, and that is the right to defend the lives of the Nicaraguan people. In order to defend the lives of the Nicaraguan people, we need military resources. We are going to continue obtaining the necessary military resources on a defensive basis.

[Unidentified reporter] Companero President: The most recent news dispatches report that the State Department has brought up a new argument, new charges against Nicaragua, and that is that the revolutionary government has purchased more sophisticated surface-to-air missiles of medium range. They use that to say that here there is always a threat, more less like the issue of the missiles [preceding word in English]. What could you tell the Nicaraguan people about this?

[Ortega] We repeat, Nicaragua has purchased and will continue to purchase all the armaments necessary for its defense. Nicaragua has an entirely defensive armament. Thank you.

[Announcer] This concludes the press conference hosted by Companero President Commander of the Revolution Daniel Ortega Saavedra. Let us see if Father Miguel D'Escoto Brockman is going to make any statements. We do not know. We have been running around, as we have a problem with the microphones. It has been difficult for us to move around. The commander is now speaking; let us try to get closer and hear what he is saying.

[Unidentified reporter] [Question indistinct]

[Ortega] No, no. We have always had the (?C-12-M) which is the equivalent of the SA-N-7.

[Reporter] Have any other missiles arrived? Any other type of antiaircraft missiles in the last month?

[Ortega] The missile we have is that one, and we are going to continue defending our right to have the antiaircraft weapons we need for the defense of the country, in order to face the air force that sometimes comes to bomb airports such as this one.

[Reporter] In the last few days, there were unconfirmed reports to the effect that (?SAC) had arrived here, and later...

[Ortega, interrupting] Here? For a long time we have had surface-to-air missiles, (?C-12-M.) which are the equivalent of the SA-N-7. We have had them for a long time. With one of those last year or the year before we shot down a plane that was bringing supplies to the counterrevolutionaries. We used one of those missiles. We already shot down one plane with one of those missiles.

[Reporter] When you refer to means...

[Ortega, interrupting] The (?C-12-M) SA-N-7, a missile which we have here. We are going to purchase all necessary means in order to defend ourselves. The antiaircraft means include also the intercept planes. Nicaragua has a right to purchase all types of armament for its defense, as does any other country.

[Announcer] Thank you, Commander. You have heard the statements by the president of Nicaragua, Commander of the Revolution Daniel Ortega Saavedra.

H. ORTEGA INTERVIEWED ON U.S. POLICY, CONTRAS

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[Interview with Nicaraguan Minister of Defense Humberto Ortega by THE WASHINGTON POST reporter Joanne Omang in Managua -- date not given]

[Text] We Cannot Care Less About Reagan's Stupid Policy

Omang: I thank you for the opportunity to speak with you, because you do not speak very much with reporters. I feel a little privileged.

Let us speak a little of the U.S. strategy and the contras. At this time you have the initiative, you have control of the situation, but the U.S., as is well known, is trying to change this situation with the aid they are giving the contras, and the strategy they are planning. You must know that they are planning a prolonged war against you. You have a very weak economy, problems with the military service; in general, a very difficult situation. What is your current strategy in response to this threat?

Ortega: The U.S. strategy proposed that within a relatively short period of time, and through a military front with the mercenary forces, it would topple the revolutionary government. If the war has been prolonged it is not because the United States planned it that way. The strategy of using the mercenary forces as the center of an important political front in the most important cities of the country along with the other sectors that oppose the revolutionary government has failed, especially in 1984 and thus far in 1985.

The main result of Sandinist influence on the Nicaraguan people has been popular support for the revolutionary government, because of the political and ideological shortcomings of the different groups that oppose the Sandinist regime and the shortcomings of the single solid military bloc against the Nicaraguan regime, as well as the disorganization of the different counterrevolutionary leaders who squander the large quantities of money they receive. As a result of all of this, their short term fascist plans have failed, prolonging the war.

Omang: Squander?

Ortega: If the United States allots them $100, for example, the troops receive $20 and the remaining $80 are left for the leaders -- part of this is given to the intermediate levels -- so there is administrative corruption. The United States has not been able to form a solid military and political bloc. It has failed, especially since 1984, which was a very important year for them because in 1984 conditions were better for the mercenary forces they maintain in Honduras and Costa Rica to advance against us.

Omang: With a few contras and all financial aid cut?

Ortega: But with basic support to the contras that is received through Honduras, such as the flow of arms and logistical support through the Honduran Army to the mercenary bases, which never stopped.

Undoubtedly, the cost had a negative effect on Congress, but it was not decisive because the war is not contingent upon this aid. The problem for Reagan was not the lack of material resources, but the negative political impact of Congress' refusal to approve his policy toward Nicaragua. In reality, Reagan achieved a victory with the congressional recommendation of support for the contras, a victory in his policy against Nicaragua. That is a reality, is it not?

Omang: With this nonmilitary aid?

Ortega: Yes. Reagan managed to have Congress approve his policy toward Nicaragua. This is undoubtedly a victory for Reagan. I will refer to the strategic defeat of the contras, and you will understand that Reagan's victory in Congress came late. In 1984 we had serious problems. During the first 6 months of that year we did not have the forces in the military service. Our forces were not as well prepared as they are now, almost 2 years after the military service process was initiated. We implemented the military service in Nicaragua because at some point we had to enforce an obligatory military service, as is the practice in all countries of the world. It is an organized and institutional effort for the country's defense. Of course, in our case this coincided with a war juncture, a political juncture.

The U.S. plan this year called for the majority of the forces to concentrate in Honduras, and Eden Pastora will remain in the south. They prepared them well, etc., and we found ourselves with a problem: We did not have a young and properly trained force. We survived until that time basically with the militias that we called reserve infantry battalions, that is, our strength depended basically at that time on the masses and a large number of militia and reserve units. However, we had very few specialized forces.

We realized that to deal strategic blows, it would be necessary to accompany large-scale action with specialized troops to defeat the enemy, and we set out to prepare this force. It was necessary to prepare the men; we needed to teach them and, above all, to season them. We were at a disadvantage. In addition, presidential elections were scheduled to be held in 1984. The United States set out to prevent the elections in Nicaragua, because the elections in Nicaragua were an important step in legitimizing the revolutionary change that we attained in 1979.

They Had the Strength But We Hit Them

Ortega: Reagan set out to prevent the elections and to make the balance of forces between the EPS [Sandinist People's Army] and the mercenary forces tilt in favor of the mercenaries by November 1984. The mercenaries set out "to liberate" all of Nueva Segovia, Esteli, and Madriz Departments, and a large portion of Matagalpa Department; to develop an active internal political-military front to prevent the elections; to maintain the yoke of pressures that Reagan has maintained to date with his frigates, planes, troops in Honduras, etc.; and to isolate us from the foreign community, and particularly from Latin America. This was the master plan the United States drew up against Nicaragua.

The Yankee analysts reported that the EPS had no specialized forces and virtually no helicopters; that its logistics system was weak and lacked a number of resources, for which it had already signed contracts but had not yet received. The CIA analysts knew this and so launched their actions with full force.

Our situation was very difficult. However, we were able to carry out the registrations for the elections; to celebrate the fifth anniversary [of the overthrow of Somoza] on 19 July; and to hold the elections despite the threatening flights of the Blackbird. We were able to stop the onslaught of the mercenaries, who could not "liberate" the territory they wanted to liberate. They failed in their military plan and we hit them, to boot. They had the strength, but we beat them despite the problems we had, and now they have no other option but to hurl themselves criminally against economic targets, against coffee production. Therefore, they are pursuing a line that focuses fundamentally on unprotected economic targets. The mercenaries' defeat began in 1984 because of the factors I have mentioned.

In 1985 they are in a much more difficult military situation because in the first 6 months of 1985 we have fulfilled the entire program of training the forces that we planned in 1984. We have already introduced into the country the different types of helicopters that we needed to support counterinsurgency operations, combat helicopters and support helicopters, for example, the MI-24 helicopters.

Omang: You did not use those until August, right?

Ortega: Yes, we used them recently, but we already had them as well as other helicopters of another type. We were also able to bring in various types of equipment that we needed, trucks, spare parts, a lot of things. In other words, we strengthened ourselves and created the special forces of the SMP [Patriotic Military Service] and other permanent forces. We also consolidated what we call here the territorial defense units. They are peasant units and peasant militias for self-defense who live in war territories. They are a basic support for the development of the major operations of our troops, the Air Force, artillery, etc....

The type of war like the one we are waging cannot be decided like a battle, for example, like the defeat of Napoleon at Waterloo, or like the big battles such as at Stalingrad. This war is an eminently irregular war and therefore the theater and lines of combat are more indefinite.

Omang: What would victory consist of?

Ortega: Victory at this time means the mercenary forces cannot develop strategically as a military threat to the revolution. They cannot achieve that. To date, the counter-revolution has shown that it is incapable of holding on to a piece of the country's territory, much less in the city and much less in important territories. We have brought them to a defensive situation, a situation in which they do not have any prospects for strategic, military, and political development because they do not have their own social base for that.

In 1984, they wanted to consolidate large units because with large units, large targets can be maintained, towns can be liberated, territories can be liberated and maintained. But if you do not have big units, you cannot hold on to that. What have they done in the face of being unable to maintain large units? They have been dispersing in smaller groups that logically cause harm but they lose superior operational capacity.

From the military viewpoint, even though we have not exterminated them -- and we think that will take time -- they cannot, on their own, become an army capable of defeating us. That is impossible. At this stage, due to the level of consolidation achieved by the revolution from the military viewpoint with the weapons held by the people and the type of strategy that we promote, which is popular and extensive, only the United States with its forces could enter Nicaragua and hit us, but not without problems. It is unquestionable that the United States can enter many important parts of Nicaragua, but it cannot control the country. It could not control it.

Reagan Has Radicalized the Masses

Ortega: We have defeated the Yankee plan's possibilities of consolidating a mercenary force with which to defeat the Sandinist revolution. They cannot do that. Even if Reagan wanted to obtain 30,000 men, it would be impossible because they no longer have possibilities of increasing their numbers. Many rural areas where the revolution had not arrived are now being reached despite the economic problems. Peasants that were confused because the revolution had not reached them, or because we had committed errors, or because they feared the armed presence of the counterrevolutionaries coming from abroad, that peasant willingly or by force joined the counterrevolution.

However, that situation does not affect the 3 million Nicaraguans. Just a couple of thousand were affected, and now they are affected less severely because the peasant sees the revolution and how we are hitting the counterrevolution.

You have seen how in the past few months, Pastora's force has been totally neutralized. This has led to a great demoralization of his forces. They have great internal conflicts, and their men have left. Pastora is practically alone. This has been a blow to the general plan of the CIA.

The forces of the north have their problems. They are logically stronger than those of the south, but we have also dealt harsh blows to them. In La Trinidad, Esteli, they tried to maintain a systematic presence like the Salvadorans, for example, who operate on the roads and the main economic and social routes. They cannot do this here.

Omang: There is a new Miskito organization, KISAN [Unity of the Nicaraguan Atlantic Coast Peoples]. Could the counterrevolutionaries open a new internal front? In addition, you cannot cross the border to hit the bases, and the U.S. Congress is giving them new aid. The contras are very optimistic now.

Ortega: Yes, correct. But with the prolongation of the war, the presence of the contras in Costa Rica and Honduras creates problems for Honduras and Costa Rica because the contras are not going to defeat us.

Why does the United States want to aid the contras at this time when they know that they are strategically defeated? They want them to continue to pressure us, to economically weaken us, to distract us militarily so that we will not consolidate our Army. Nevertheless, here in Nicaragua there are many officers and soldiers who do not have the education of the other officers of Latin America or the high level academies. However, we have an Army that is more trained and experienced than any other in Latin America. The best school has been the war that Reagan has maintained with his mercenaries because we have learned how to fight under difficult conditions, and we have developed a patriotic and anti-interventionist conscience. Reagan, and not the Sandinist ideology, has united all the people against his policy. It has not really been our policy that has radicalized the masses. It has been the mistaken policy of Reagan that has contributed to the strengthening of the anti-Yankee spirit.

Omang: The people here are quite critical of the United States.

Ortega: That is right. As you say, we cannot go into Honduras or Costa Rica but neither can the mercenaries defeat us.

They are going to continue wearing us down because they kill many people, destroy cooperatives, damage tractors and trucks, and kill soldiers. However, they will not defeat us. They are gradually losing their morale and becoming rustlers in Honduras and Costa Rica. The Honduran and Costa Rican societies are beginning to become annoyed over the presence of these individuals, who constitute advanturesome armed forces, and do not rule out the likelihood that if they are careless -- particularly Costa Rica -- and the war lingers on, Costa Rica will at any moment start looking like a sort of Lebanon.

There Will Be No Response to Costa Rica

Omang: However, Costa Rica is now harder on you than ever?

Ortega: We will not respond to the provocations because it is not Costa Rica making them. The provocations from Costa Rica are really due to the U.S. policy, which does not speak through the Costa Rican people but through Costa Ricans who toe that line. We really do not believe that the Costa Rican people approve of the tension with Nicaragua. Costa Ricans are experiencing a serious economic crisis. They are suffering from the foreign debt. The United States cannot solve this problem for them. Therefore, if Costa Rica continues pursuing its current policy, what it will do is create problems for itself because in the long run it will not be able to control the forces that are roaming its territory with weapons. There are social problems in Costa Rica, and these may intensify. Elements who hate the Costa Rican regime may also emerge there. The Costa Rican left wing has been waging a civic struggle, but who can predict that it will not confront the U.S. policy in Costa Rica in some other way?

Omang: In what way?

Ortega: It can also confront it with weapons, in a situation of violence like the one the United States has imposed in Central America. Costa Rica is the country in Central America where the most gun-running is taking place and has taken place in the last 10 years. There are thousands of clandestine weapons circulating in Costa Rica. They are purchased by the leftist guerrillas, the rightists, and by the traffickers, too. Costa Rica is a permanent arms market. Violence can break out there at any time. We have just seen it in the case of [Hugo] Spadafora, the CIA mercenary who lived in Costa Rica and was found beheaded in Costa Rican territory. The violence that has been allowed by its own policy is being taken to Costa Rica, too.

Omang: And in Honduras?

Ortega: I will finish talking about Costa Rica. We are not going to enter Costa Rica. We are going to continue defeating the contras. However, the Costa Rican people will take charge of expressing their views in different ways: pacifically or violently? We do not know. The same way that the Nicaraguan armed opposition operates out of Costa Rica, why couldn't the armed opposition operate out of Panama or Nicaragua against Costa Rica at a given moment, if such opposition indeed arises? To the extent that there is tolerance on the part of Costa Rica, and agressiveness as it currently exists, the Nicaraguan Government would not be very keen on persecuting any Costa Ricans wishing to come here to wage war on the Costa Rican Government.

Omang: My government would blame you.

Ortega: The Yankee government blames us for everything. What is most important is that Costa Rica shift position, that it talk with us, and that we reach an understanding. Up until today, no Costa Ricans have come here to seek support in regard to problems they have in Costa Rica. However, this may happen. I am giving you this as an example.

The same goes for Honduras. What the presence of the contras has done there is create problems. A short time ago, Major Ricardo Zuniga was murdered and the hands that murdered that Honduran Army major belong to two Nicaraguan counterrevolutionaries. The contras in Honduras have committed murders and thefts. Many Honduran farm owners, farmers, and other sectors of the Honduran population are fed up. They do not want the contras there. Right now, all presidential candidates are coming out against the presence of mercenary forces in Honduras.

Omang: However, they have no power; they are not in power.

Ortega: Of course. However, the politicians who are participating in the electoral race in Honduras are voicing opposition to the presence of counterrevolutionaries on Honduran territory. What does that mean? It means that the Honduran people and the Honduran political leaders reject this U.S. policy. They have no power, it is true. However, there is a rejection. The presence of the mercenaries there will continue as long as they wish because if the Hondurans wanted it to end they would take all of them and send them to the border with Guatemala. They would disarm the contras, period, and the war would end.

Omang: Would they turn the contras over to you?

Ortega: If they take away their weapons and turn them over to us we will give them jobs here. We have said this already. We do not kill them here. Hundreds have turned themselves in and they are here, free.

Omang: Were they turned over by the Hondurans?

Ortega: No. This is another problem. It deals with the amnesty.

Omang: Are you also prepared for a prolonged war, that is, attacks on the border? Will you repel them if you can?

Ortega: Yes, in the way we have repelled the contras to date. Problems arise at the border. We do not want this. This entails a danger of war with Honduras.

To Go on With Parasites and Not To Die

Omang: Previously, the contras had influence in three departments and now have influence in nine. Are they actually operating in more places?

Ortega: No. What happens is that they have dispersed.

Omang: However, they continue to maintain a presence in several places.

Ortega: A presence, but without any strategic significance. There have been guerrillas in Colombia since the era of the Bogotazo in 1948. One can live with parasites and not die. What is there in the south? A defeated force, a defeated U.S. policy. The entire policy they came up with, involving Pastora and the Miskitos, has been to no avail.

Omang: Despite the new alliance of the Miskitos?

Ortega: The counterrevolutionary Miskitos have significantly harmed themselves. In addition, the policy of autonomy that we are promoting through consultations is being understood by the Miskitos little by little. The Miskito problem does not frighten me; it is a small problem. And in the south, who controls the San Juan River? There are some in the area of Chontales, and El Rama; however, who is doing the persecuting? They persecute us and we persecute them! Who uses the roads? Who controls the bridges? We have the initiative; they do not. They are present in some areas; however, their presence is weak. If they had larger groups then they would be stronger. However, they did have the land. We dealt blows and dispersed them. Today they are weaker but they have spread; that is, they dispersed.

Regarding the recent attack on La Trinidad, they only achieved a defeat. This attack cost them tens of dead, wounded, and prisoners.

Omang: Are you just waiting for us to become bored with this whole situation?

Ortega: No. We have implemented a strategy to deal stronger blows. We have inflicted hundreds of casualties this year. We have trained more troops; we are training battalions that will be much more specialized than the BLI [Battalions for Unconventional Warfare]. We did not have this kind of battalion, but we are forming them now. Our fighting at the border has also become more systematized. The dry season will come soon and it will be much easier to act against the enemy because we will be able to use our means of transportation and deployment will be much easier throughout the area.

Our strategy is not to ignore them, but rather to coexist with them. Our strategy calls for the development of various campaigns, maneuvers, and special actions, and to work to disband and infiltrate them as the Interior Ministry has done. The Interior Ministry has infiltrated their exclusive groups and killed their leaders during special actions. We have planted thousands of mines and deployed troops in important areas along the border, etc. All of this gives us a picture of something we could not have in 1984 or early 1985; that is, we have strategically advanced because today we have more forces than we had in 1984. We have organized and specialized units, and a large number of these units. The members of our militia are better trained. We have advanced in the military area and in the area of agrarian reform. In the area of agrarian reform, we have advanced by eliminating several mistakes we had made. We are distributing land that belonged to the state and large landowners. We are implementing a better agrarian reform policy. The most important thing is to distribute land among the peasants and give them government support, basic government support.

Omang: Do you feel that you could survive economically even if Nicaragua were to be completely paralyzed by my country, the United States?

Ortega: The United States has great power; it can deploy its troops quickly and at a moment's notice. They already know through what area they are going to enter. They have photographs of every street and house. They obtained the photographs via their satellites and through the agents they have in the area. What will happen? They will not defeat us with their mercenaries. We will not die of hunger. Reagan seeks to completely drown our economy; he wants to enclose us financially; he wants to create huge economic problems for us so that the people will become dissatisfied with the revolution. A dissatisfied and disgusted people will turn against the revolution and that will be the end of the revolution. That is what Reagan wants, but that is not the way things are. When a real revolution has been made, the people understand that they must sacrifice much in order not to surrender. The only thing that Reagan's economic aggression accomplishes is to strengthen the awareness of the people and make the people go against Reagan. This is the truth. The Nicaraguan people will not surrender because they are hungry. They have always had to face economic problems. Therefore, if this is what is planned to drown Nicaragua, this will also fail.

Economic Crisis Must Be Stopped

Omang: How can the Central American problem be resolved?

Ortega: The economic crisis must be stopped. Latin America's economic crisis affects Central America. Our countries are poor and underdeveloped. The economic crisis is aggravated by a strangling foreign debt. Nicaragua's economic crisis involves an underdeveloped country facing a large foreign debt topped off by a political crisis made even worse by a war of aggression. The reason behind all this is the economic and social problems which generated the social explosion, caused the political crisis, and gave rise to armed violence.

How will this problem be resolved? Let us reverse the factors: We must resolve violence to resolve the political crisis in order that all of us may work to resolve the economic and social problems. Then the chaos and economic crisis Latin America and Central America are enmeshed in at this time must be contained.

Leave Them Alone and You Will See

Omang: Are you implying that they lack popular support and that they are totally created by the United States?

Ortega: That is correct.

Omang: Totally?

Ortega: No, not totally, because they are Nicaraguans. However, we should run a test to determine whether or not they enjoy popular support. They should be left alone for 3 months. The contras should be left alone, without Honduran or Costa Rican support, in Nicaragua. Leave them alone for 3 months and the contras will disappear.

Omang: You also looked abroad, toward Cuba; a revolutionary force cannot only exist at home.

Ortega: We led the people and the cities to insurrection. We staged the September 1978 rebellion with 150 rifles. We had the people's support to challenge Somoza. The contras do not have the people's support to produce insurrections in Managua, Leon, and Masaya. Where are the counterrevolution's people?

Omang: Are you implying that the counterrevolution lacks leadership?

Ortega: It lacks leadership. That is why it has no future. The counterrevolutionaries have had very little social influence on the peasantry and the Miskitos have had a slow response. Not even the petty crooks who live in Nicaragua trust them. A handful of businessmen support them. These include Bolanos [Enrique Bolanos, president of the Nicaraguan Higher Council of Private Enterprise] and several other extreme right wingers. However, most Nicaraguan businessmen reject the contras because [FDN leader] Enrique Bolanos Bermudez is a Somozist and does not represent their interests. Businessmen currently feel more at ease with us. Those who have stayed in the country are more economically stable now than before.

Omang: Is the contra leadership -- Calero, Bermudez, Robelo -- weak?

Ortega: They do not represent the Pellas or Chamorro, for example, who were the major capitalists of Nicaragua.

Omang: Do you consider them leaders?

Ortega: Nobody in Nicaragua follows Robelo.

Omang: Who then is the contras day-to-day leader?

Ortega: Basically, it is hierarchy of the former National Guard who are the leaders of the mercenary forces. They hold the real power -- I am referring to Bermudez, whose ranks are mostly made up of former national guardsmen who do not want anything to do with the bourgeoisie. These former guardsmen are so reactionary that if they were to attain victory they would massacre people like crazy. They are savages! They consider the Pellas-Chamorro capitalists as Sandinists and would kill them. The truth of the matter is that Calero has always been an agent of the CIA, Coca-Cola's man in Nicaragua.

The bourgeoisie has always looked at Arturo Cruz scornfully because he was a mediocre leader and he was always a technocrat of the banks in the United States. Arturo Cruz did not live in Nicaragua. He lived in the United States. Robelo was also sidelined by the right wing due to his political ambitions.

The United States cannot find a political leader because Pastora does not want any involvement with Calero. Calero and Bermudez [Nicaraguan Democratic Force leaders] do not want any involvement with Pastora. Robelo does not want any involvement with Eden and Arturo Cruz does not want any involvement with the others. There is no leadership. Brooklyn Rivera [leader of the Miskito, Sumu, Rama Sandinist Unity] does not want anything to do with Fagoth [Steadman Fagoth, former leader of the Miskitos, Sumus and Ramas]. Fagoth does not want anything to do with another Miskito. One Miskito does not want anything to do with another Miskito. They kill each other. Brooklyn Rivera says that they want to kill him. They do not have real unity. The United States has been unable to achieve this.

Omang: Do the dollars bring them together?

Ortega: The dollars bring them together, but now they are also separating them. They all want to grab dollars. That is the reality. We are united. We have a revolutionary leadership.

What Are the Rules of the Game?

Omang: Everyone in the United States, the Congress, and the government now have much hope in the contras.

Ortega: They have always had hopes in Vietnam and they lost.

Omang: They learned a lot in Vietnam. What is the solution?

Ortega: I think the solution is that we understand many things we do not like about the United States, we learn to live with those things, and we understand and respect them just as the United States should understand many things that it does not like about us. Then, we should seek the rules of the game to coexist in this very conflictive region. I think that the important thing is that we learn to coexist. We are intelligent. We know what to do and what not to do. Politically speaking, we know what is bad and what is not bad. Let us contribute to the extent that Nicaragua, with its moral authority, can contribute.

Omang: You can do whatever you want with your domestic policy but the foreign policy must be controlled by us, the United States.

Ortega: We, in any event, export morale, our example. If anyone wants to take it, they can; if they do not, then they do not. However, we are being attacked; we are being pressured. What can we tell the peoples, not to help us in this struggle? That they do not support us against the injustice? Where are we heading if the United States does not want to live with us, if the United States does not want to accept Nicaragua as a reality in Central America? Where are we going to go? How far does Reagan want to go? Reagan still has the opportunity to be recorded in history in two ways: one, as the U.S. President who brought Latin America close to the United States, or two, the U.S. President that definitely separated Latin America from the United States. Thus far, Reagan is separating Latin America from the United States with his erratic policy. That is what he has done, particularly to the peoples. More important, the Latin American peoples have become more disappointed with the United States. Why? Because of its erratic and unjust policy.

Omang: Have you been a revolutionary from childhood?

Ortega: Yes, we grew up in a revolutionary surrounding.

Omang: In the strictest sense?

Ortega: We are revolutionaries because Somoza existed. We were rebels and then we became revolutionaries to the degree that we became more educated.

Omang: Therefore, it is difficult for you to see in us something other than the enemy. It is difficult for you to admit that we are not evil.

Ortega: No, because we have American friends.

Omang: In your youth, you were attacking the Yankees as enemies, as defenders of the Somoza family. Reagan, who is now 75 years old, has fought against communism for 50 years as if it were the devil. It seems to me that the two of you are not capable of seeing the truth in one another.

Ortega: No, no, no. We have many American friends. We talk with the U.S. ambassador and the military attaches. We see them as human beings and they see us as human beings. We are not enemies of the Americans. Some Americans are enemies of Nicaragua. We know the difference. We have met many congressmen, newsmen, and plain U.S. folks. In general, the American people are very noble. What we do not want is an unjust, aggressive policy against us.

Omang: This point is not very clear in history. Carter helped you in the early days.

Ortega: It was not help. The U.S. policy of supporting Somoza caused 50,000 deaths here and left the country you see in a state of backwardness. What did U.S. democracy, the west, capitalism, that culture, technology, and justice leave us here in Nicaragua? It left us with illiteracy, hunger, malnourished and sick individuals and death. That is the example we have had of U.S. democracy. We did not learn here of the constitution; we only learned of dictatorship.

Omang: Carter helped after the war.

Ortega: The 7 million is no help since they took hundreds of millions from Nicaragua during past exploitation when they left us thousands of dead. What help could there possibly be when they spent $30 billion a year in the Vietnam War? In those years, I told Pezzullo: Let the United States assume the foreign debt of Nicaragua. Today we would have no arguments if the United States had given us armaments. There were no weapons when we won. The weapons were no good; they were damaged. We asked the United States for weapons and scholarships, and they said no. The United States did not want to give us weapons. Then, we asked them for planes and the United States did not want to give us planes. If we have no money to purchase weapons, we searched for weapons. Who gave us the weapons? The USSR.

Fear Those Who Help Us?

Omang: Do you fear the USSR at all?

Ortega: We do not fear the USSR. With the Soviet Government we have a relationship like those we have with countries that want a respectful relationship with us. We respect the general rules of relations with the international community. With Mexico, we have not had any problems.

Omang: Is the aid from the USSR normally given in an open manner for some time, and then entailing conditions with later demands?

Ortega: We have not seen such an attitude. We have said that we want an independent, nonaligned revolution. We will always maintain this principle. That is our raison d'etre.

Omang: You have read the story about the USSR, Poland?

Ortega: That is correct. But this is not Poland, or any other place. This is Central America and we have not had that problem thus far. The problem we have here is with the United States which has intervened three times in Nicaragua. We have relations with the USSR, Mexico, and Europe. We have asked Europe to help us even more. We want to maintain relations with Japan.... The United States has pulled away from us. They could have helped us more in the beginning by doing more for Latin America. Why didn't they? Why didn't they help our fledgling revolution?

Omang: The United States claims it tried to help but that you did not accept that assistance.

Ortega: We do not want handouts. We reject that kind of relationship. That is what Carter was offering us. We wanted a just relationship with the United States. That does not mean that we are willing to sell out or anything of the kind. We are seeking a respectful relationship.

Omang: What is the short-term solution?

Ortega: The only solution is for the United States to establish a dialogue with us. It is the least we can do: understand each other, single out what the United States does not like and what we do not like.

Omang: As you know, their basic aim is the fulfillment of the four points they have always presented.

Ortega: That is correct. In any event, I can speak for what Nicaragua wants.

Omang: What you want and what they want....the two sides have objectives.

Ortega: Our first desire is for the war to end. We cannot negotiate while they impose war on us.

No Dialogue With the Contras

Omang: They say you will not negotiate if they stop the war.

Ortega: Then, will they negotiate after we annihilate the mercenaries or will they launch another direct war? In that case, they will have to negotiate under more difficult conditions. They want us to negotiate with the contras, but that is impossible.

Omang: However, it would be worthwhile to negotiate with them. Why not? You could negotiate with the United States through the contras.

Ortega: We have granted an amnesty. It is no problem that they seek shelter under the amnesty. The United States does not want us to establish a dialogue with the counter-revolution, but to share power with them. This is another matter altogether.

Omang: That is the same argument the Salvadoran Government is setting forth with regard to the rebels there, isn't it?

Ortega: Yes, but in Nicaragua it is we who hold power. Do you understand what I mean? The problem in El Salvador is the Salvadorans' problem. I do not know where the problem will lead.

Omang: Let us say that the contras make some advances but fail to achieve victory by January or by 27 March 1987, which is after the U.S. elections. It would be very important for you to evaluate the situation at that time. Reagan will think: I will go down in history as someone who allowed a communist regime to flourish in Central America. No! Or he might say: An intervention could be promoted.

Ortega: Fine. They can find a pretext. The worst is yet to come if the Yankees intervene. Let them. We do not fear them.

Omang: The intervention can be averted.

Ortega: The United States always does what it wants. Let us say we allow the counter-revolution a small share of power, and the United States concludes that it is not enough. Then they will create a Gulf of Tonkin and provoke war with Honduras so that they can intervene. That would not be our fault. We do not want the United States to intervene. However, if it does, we will fight them and extend the war as far as it can go. It will remain to be seen who will resolve that problem. The United States will not resolve the problem militarily. They will find hundreds of thousands of men, equipped with all sorts of weapons, who will fight them and haunt them like specters and harass them like mosquitos. We will fight in Costa Rica and Honduras and spread all over. We will live like nomads. Thousands of Nicaraguans will die. We are willing to meet our fate if that is our lot and destiny because we refuse to surrender. Together with our children we are mentally prepared for a bomb to fall on us, or for the CIA to poison us, or for our car to blow up with explosives. In that sense the worst variable, the direct threat, does not scare us. Reagan's threat that he will impose his stupid policy does not scare us.

I repeat: We do not want an intervention because we do not want any more Nicaraguans or Central Americans to die, or any U.S. youths to die in Nicaragua. However, if that is the only thing left, will we surrender to the Yankees? We will not surrender to anyone.

Omang: There must be a protest by someone that can prevent that from happening.

Ortega: The Yankees do not want to prevent it. The Yankees are going to invent a Gulf of Tonkin, a pretext. They continue to fabricate conflicts with Costa Rica.... What can we do if we are struggling against an unreasonable position that is not rational, that is illogical? Reagan does not want to prevent it. They want to see everything one way, and this way we will never come to anything. If we only see one way we will not come to anything, either. Without a doubt, the important thing is to reach a political, negotiated solution. However, the solution cannot be the self-destruction of the revolution.

Reagan's strategy is the strategy of negotiation on the verge of war. In other words, they have created a war scaffolding to subjugate us, averting the cost of an intervention that would force us to capitulate. And it would not be to negotiate, but virtually a shameful betrayal.

A Victory For the People

Omang: Describe the agreement that you realistically envisage.

Ortega: I believe that the solution, first of all, is to normalize the relations between the United States and Nicaragua. To normalize them, to remove the pressure, the war pressure, the political pressure, the economic pressure. This would contribute immediately to permitting us to hear one another in a broader manner.

We are living in a world that is not too easy. One must be realistic without delving into the past, establishing as of this moment a new relationship.

A dispassionate opening would be acceptable to all. The fact that President Reagan initiates a type of dialogue, but in a direct manner, with Nicaragua would not constitute a defeat for Reagan. We do not seek to defeat Reagan, either politically or militarily. We want the acceptance of something that will be objectively positive for all, favorable for all. And undoubtedly for us, the most important thing is that there be no more war and bloodshed.

We are a factory of greater stability than the contras could be if they were in power. What do all we Central Americans do to be more stable? First of all, I believe that the one that can help the most, because it is the largest one here, is the United States. But then, anyone should realize this because there has to be a solution. The only possibility is to recover our confidence, recover communication, so that we may speak and understand one another.

Omang: There is another factor. You are acquainted with the International Cooperative Movement [Movimiento Cooperativista Internacional]. It is getting together with Margaret Thatcher and others. It groups the anticommunists of the world. It is deeply rooted in the United States. The wealthy, the millionaires have this cause as their gospel against communism. They believe that the United States is not giving the contras sufficient official aid; they do it; there are others who cooperate in the world and who would aid the contras.

Ortega: Yes.

Omang: They are really continuing something that is growing. It is a world movement and has very little to do with the states, the governments. This could also be a threat to you because they are very wealthy. We have many conservatives who are strong in Texas, Florida, and other parts of the United States and they are mobilizing.

Ortega: An anticommunist crusade. Well, hopefully they will change. If we could only talk to them so that they would see we are not monsters. We would like to talk to these persons -- Reagan, Shultz, all of these persons, Weinberger. That millionaire sect exists, that is true, but I think that there are not too many of them. Not everyone in the United States is a millionaire. Yet, here in Latin America there are other movements in the face of those movements and these are peoples who are not millionaires. But these are millions of people. Who will fare better in a struggle like that?

Omang: I am saying this because if you reach an agreement with the U.S. Government it is possible that the contras will continue to receive aid through this conservative movement.

Ortega: The contras are losing possibilities with each passing day. You give them $10 and they do not know how to spend it. Thus, the U.S. taxpayers' money is being squandered, it is not really being put to good use. They are not an enterprise or revenue, not well-administered and producing capital. They are poor administrators, they live in corruption.

The problem is not only in Nicaragua but in the region. And with each passing day violence further intensifies. You heard of the Spadafora problem and Duarte's daughter being kidnapped. And we are reaching a level of uncontrollable violence, because there is no political solution in sight. There is no solution to this.

Where will this lead us? If in Nicaragua there are times when the basic rules of coexistence are broken, in Costa Rica, as I said, one day the counterrevolutionary bands will break away from the government altogether and become unmanageable.

Omang: My country's government will interpret your last statement as a threat.

Ortega: What?

Omang: You said a time will come when violence will grow until the point where it will be unmanageable.

Ortega: That is what is happening right now.

Return to Manzanillo

Omang: However, they will see it as a terrorist threat on your part.

Ortega: I see it as a social and political phenomenon. If there is no solution the political crisis and the war will get worse. This situation generates more violence. I am not promoting violence, I am describing it. Let me give you some examples. There is Spadafora's killing in Costa Rica, the murder of Major Zuniga in Honduras, conspiracies, murders within the Honduran Army, the kidnapping of Duarte's daughter, missing people, tortures all over Central America. What is this? This must be stopped somehow. There is no reason why Reagan should have qualms about changing his policy.

Omang: Why only him? You are engaged in a similar race and you have no qualms about changing your policy.

Ortega: Then let us sit down again like we did in Manzanillo.

Omang: It is said you will break any agreement that is signed.

Ortega: That would make no sense. If we break an agreement we would be without any kind of protection and then we would really be open to a blow. There would be a justification for it. If we reach an agreement we must live up to it. We are serious in this respect. That is why we have been careful not to sign any agreement. We are struggling to reach an agreement because we will abide by it, by a just agreement. We are not idealists. We want something reasonable that will not be a blow to us, that will not injure our dignity or sovereignty. That is another matter.

Omang: What concrete offer are you willing to make at this time in order to return to the negotiation table?

Ortega: That would have to be discussed. Things are not so simple.

Omang: The Reagan administration has said that a better climate would exist if you made some kind of political gesture, such as the withdrawal of some Cuban advisers or the breaking of your ties with the Soviet Union.

Ortega: Then we are off to a bad start. Why do we have "to make gestures?" Why don't they "make gestures" too? Why should we pull the Cubans out? I have several hundred Cubans that currently do not number 600: Cuban military men, instructors.

Omang: As a gesture of goodwill.

Ortega: This gesture would insult the Cubans, Soviets, Mexicans, or the French. Why must I send the French and Cubans away? Why should a country send the Americans away in order to please the Soviet Union? I believe this is not gracious, it is not correct. If we analyze things from the East-West viewpoint it is dangerous, because this is not the real problem.

Omang: That is how Washington sees things.

Ortega: But this is not the case.

Omang: Why do you not ask Ambassador [Harry] Bergold and see what he says?

Ortega: I recently talked with Bergold.

Omang: Did he say anything about this?

Ortega: What will be their gesture?

Omang: He must have said something.

Ortega: These kinds of gestures are not possible right now.

Omang: What will Daniel say at the United Nations?

Ortega: I have not discussed the topic with him yet.

The Invasion Is a Fact

Omang: Will you create another "invasion" as you did on 17 October last year? Do you remember?

Ortega: The invasion is true. The mercenaries and dead are there; we are threatened with a direct invasion, airplanes, frigates....

Omang: Threats are part of politics.

Ortega: Yes, but we do not threaten the United States.

Omang: Yes? [as published]

Ortega: Where are our frigates?

Omang: With communism.

Ortega: Where is our communism?

Omang: Is it not imminent?

Ortega: Let us talk about the present; what socialism are you talking about? Chinese socialism or Soviet socialism?

Omang: Cuban socialism.

Ortega: Which socialism are we going to talk about? Yugoslav, Chinese, Romanian, Vietnamese, Algerian, or Hungarian? Which one do they fear?

Omang: Which socialism do you prefer?

Ortega: The one we are making ourselves, our own Sandinist revolution. I would like the United States to be a little bit different with us, with Latin America today. We do not have to be afraid of the future.

Omang: The United States sees the Soviet Union everywhere; that is what it is afraid of.

Ortega: Is that what they are afraid of, the Soviet Union?

Omang: The United States thinks that you will receive Soviet aid in times of war.

Ortega: How can they help us if we only have one airport here....

Omang: There is only one airport right now but, what about the future?

Ortega: The Soviets have other problems, star wars, etc.; they do not need us for their problems with the United States.

The Most Important Base: The Nicaraguans

Omang: The case of [President Ferdinand] Marcos and the bases in the Philippines could also happen here.

Ortega: The Yankees would find out about the bases if we built them in the future. The Nicaraguan man and his rifle will always be our most important base. The airplanes are a secondary matter, even though we have a right to have them. The United States may be able to destroy the airplanes in a second, but it cannot destroy our men.

Omang: Thank you and good-bye.

Ortega: Good-bye and have a nice trip.

FREED SALVADORAN REBELS ARRIVE IN HAVANA 25 OCT

FL251926 (Editorial Report) Havana Television Service in Spanish at 1549 GMT on 25 October broadcasts recorded coverage of the arrival in Havana this morning of the Salvadoran rebels who were exchanged for the release of Salvadoran President Jose Napoleon Duarte's daughter Ines Guadalupe Duarte.

Rebel Commander Nidia Diaz is shown smiling, waving her clenched fist in the air as the crowd chants "The people united will never be defeated." She chants with them as she walks down the ramp unescorted and without any apparent physical problems. She embraces the women at the foot of ramp who greet her with "Long live the FMLN commander!" Commander Salvador Guerra follows Diaz down the ramp, also unescorted. During the entire time the rebels are disembarking from the airplane a crowd, consisting mostly of women, chants: "Revolution or death! Free fatherland or death! Fatherland or death!"

The camera then cuts to an interview with Diaz during which she is asked by an unidentified reporter about her living conditions while she was a prisoner of the Salvadoran regime. Diaz reports on her capture and discusses "the participation of the Reagan administration" in the fighting in El Salvador.

The camera then cuts back to an unidentified reporter as she asks Commander Salvador Guerra how he would define the current situation of the Salvadoran regime. Guerra says: "The Army and the Christian Democratic Government and U.S. imperialism have been trying to create since the beginning of the year the image in El Salvador that there is democracy. They, however, have the military initiative. They speak about victory and say that the FMLN has been militarily defeated. Nevertheless, the significance of this action, like the previous FMLN campaigns, demonstrates that in El Salvador there exists dual power. The FMLN is militarily capable. The 50,000 soldiers belonging to the Salvadoran Army have not been sufficient. Neither have the millions of dollars in financial assistance from the United States because they have not been able to do anything. The FMLN has demonstrated military capability in the case of the campaigns involving Ines, the mayors, and the strategic blow dealt to the union. This demonstrates that the FMLN advances victoriously, is a real force in El Salvador, and has to be taken into account for a political solution."

The camera then cuts to remarks by rebel Commander Venancio Salvatierra, who says: "The result of the operation is valuable in other ways. It shows the existence of dual power in our country. It shows our advancement in various areas, in the military, political, and diplomatic areas. It shows that we are entering the enemy rearguard. Our commando-type operations are reaching everywhere. The 'Zona Rosa' action, resulting in the death of four U.S. Marines who were part of the advisory apparatus, demonstrates that with that type of operation we are capable of reaching several sectors of enemy command. After the 'Zona Rosa' actions, these followed the liberation of prisoners from the Mariona Prison. The most recent operation is the detention of the official and daughter of President Duarte.

"In the midst of a vast military operation, which received much U.S. support for the capture of those responsible in the 'Zona Rosa' action, it was possible to carry out this operation without causing any physical harm to Ines Duarte or her companion, taking her out of the city to a war front, demonstrating the inability of the regime and the Army to release her."

Manuel Pineiro Receives Group

FL252156 Havana Television Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 25 Oct 85

[Text] In the predawn hours 104 Salvadorans wounded in war arrived in our country from Mexico and Panama, 3 political prisoners among them. Upon their arrival, they were received by Manuel Pineiro, Central Committee member and chief of the Americas Department.

The Salvadorans were released through negotiations held between the FMLN, Jose Napoleon Duarte's government representatives, and the mediation of several countries and the church, after the kidnapping of Ines Guadapupe Duarte, the president's daughter, and her friend Ana Cecilia Villeda.

Eighteen of the 22 released political prisoners were immediately incorporated in the combat fronts. Among the prisoners who arrived were Commander Nidia Diaz, combatant Santiago Rauda, and Honduran Dr Marcelino Reyes. Costa Rican pilot Julio Romera Talavera, who returned to his country, was part of this group.

The combatants arrived in Havana to receive medical attention and later convalesce in several European countries.

Nidia Diaz Interview

FL251850 Havana Television Service in Spanish 1549 GMT 25 Oct 85

[Interview with Salvadoran rebel Commander Nidia Diaz by unidentified reporter in Havana on 25 October -- recorded]

[Text] [Reporter] Commander Nidia, could you describe the conditions you lived in during your incarceration in Salvadoran prisons?

[Diaz] I was captured at a time when there was great interference in waging and maintaining the war against insurgents in the country through the participation of the Reagan administration, not only with tactical and strategic advice and training of the regime's military forces, but also through financing the war and supplying all the war equipment.

I was captured in a war front during an airborne landing operation. At the time I was in a softening area in which there were two A-37 aircraft, one push-and-pull light airplane, two helicopter gunships with a commando from the Long-Range Reconnaissance Patrol, and a U.S. adviser. Those helicopters and planes were softening the area while other troops disembarked further back. There was fighting during the withdrawal, and I was wounded. I was unconscious when I was captured by the U.S. adviser. The government itself has acknowledged that, but he said he was a technical adviser who was installing an infrared system. That is unbelievable, because he was practically the one directing the operation. I was burned by the rocket's explosive material and have four gunshot wounds. These were my physical wounds.

[Reporter] What kind of medical attention did you get?

[Diaz] They transferred me to the Air Force. There they immediately tried to provide first aid and also took some X rays.

But I needed to be hospitalized for at least a week, and they did not provide that service because I was immediately subjected to questioning. Throughout that time it had been recommended that I take the strongest antibiotics, valium, and (lisargyl), but they did not give them to me simply because if they administered that kind of medication, I would have fallen asleep, and they had to question me. I was constantly blindfolded, did not sleep, and sat there 15 days.

Once in the enemies' clutches I began to endure what I call legalized terror. They have Decree No 50 within the framework of the state of siege which they have had in force for 5 years. That decree legalizes the arbitrary capture of any person, and permanent psychological torture as well. A forced extrajudicial declaration by all prisoners who are taken to the security forces guarantees their conviction and sends them to the penal centers indefinitely.

Venezuelan advisers participated during the last phase of intense questioning. I could tell by their accents and because they told me: Nidia, we did not come to question you, we want to discuss the possibilities of a dialogue, we come on a strictly political mission. They spoke with me twice and with other government officials.

Throughout all the questioning I was blindfolded and subjected to many psychological pressures. For example, they made me responsible for -- without really knowing [if it were true] -- the fall of FMLN and said the FMLN was going to prosecute me and things like that. The last thing they asked me was whether, if I were later found wrapped with a PRTC [Revolutionary Party of Central American Workers] and FMLN flag, would have credibility among the public. They thought that could have some kind of credibility in some sectors. So it was practically a death threat.

CASTRO HOSTS RECEPTION FOR ANGOLAN PRESIDENT

FL251502 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1200 GMT 25 Oct 85

[Text] Commander in Chief Fidel Castro, first secretary of the Communist Party of Cuba and president of the Councils of State and Ministers, has held a reception in honor of Jose Eduardo dos Santos, president of the MPLA [Popular Liberation Movement of Angola] Labor Party and of the People's Republic of Angola, who arrived last night in Havana on a friendly and working visit. The reception was attended by Commanders of the Revolution Juan Almeida and Ramiro Valdez, as well as Politburo members including Carlos Rafael Rodriguez, Sergio del Valle, Armando Hart, Julio Camacho Aguilera, and other party and government leaders.

Official Talks Begin

FL260204 Havana Television Service in Spanish 0100 GMT 26 Oct 85

[Text] Jose Eduardo dos Santos, president of the Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola-Labor Party [MPLA-LP] and of the republic of Angola, who is visiting our country, has carried out various activities today. This morning the official conversations between Cuba and Angola began, headed by Commander in Chief Fidel Castro Ruz, first secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Cuba and president of the Councils of State and Ministers, and Dos Santos. During the conversations, matters of bilateral interest were discussed in an atmosphere of friendship and fraternity.

South Africa Discussed

PA250147 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2146 GMT 25 Oct 85

[Excerpts] Havana, 25 Oct (EFE) -- Cuban and Angolan Presidents Fidel Castro and Jose Eduardo dos Santos began official talks today on key topics such as the situation of South Africa and the alleged Cuban presence in that African country [as received].

Other topics that are supposedly included on the agenda to be broached by both presidents are the problem of the foreign debt affecting the Third World and the importance that the Nonaligned Movement currently grants to the problem in the southern cone of Africa, particularly its support for Angola.

The nonaligned ministerial meeting in Luanda last September condemned the policy of constructive engagement followed by the Reagan administration with regard to the regime of Pretoria and the revocation of the Clark Amendment, which prevented U.S. aid to the Angolan UNITA [National Union for the Total Independence of Angola] rebels.

Dos Santos is on a friendly and working visit to Cuba -- his third trip here since 1960 -- and he is also the sixth president to pass through the island in the past few weeks.

Speaking at the UN commemorative session on Tuesday, Dos Santos said that the Cuban military presence in his country was limited to a merely defensive role in support of the Angolan Peoples Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola, so long as they do not have the required capacity to confront the large-scale foreign attacks.

In May of this year Fidel Castro affirmed that Cuba will maintain its troops in Angola until UN Resolution No 435 is fulfilled and Namibia gains its independence. We will not withdraw a single soldier from Angola, and if necessary we will send more soldiers, he said on that occasion, during the visit to the island by UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar.

Cuba sent its first battalion to Angola in 1975 and since then has offered decisive military support to the MPLA [Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola].

Dos Santos Departs

PA271437 [Editorial report] Havana International Service in Spanish at 2200 GMT on 26 October begins a 20-minute live relay of the departure ceremony for Angolan President Jose Eduardo dos Santos at Havana's Jose Marti International Airport. The announcer states that the Angolan president is accompanied by Cuban President Fidel Castro.

The ceremony begins with the playing of the national anthems of Cuba and Angola. Following this, the two presidents review the troops at the airport. At 2231 GMT Castro and Dos Santos greet the Cuban leaders and representatives of the diplomatic corps assembled for the occasion. The announcer then reports that the Cuban and Angolan presidents move toward the large crowd at the airport, which includes many Angolan students who are waving Angolan and Cuban flags. After greeting the crowd, Fidel Castro accompanies Dos Santos to the foot of the Angolan Airlines airplane's stairs, where Dos Santos says goodbye to Castro and then climbs the stairs. No speeches are broadcast. The live relay ends at 2240 GMT.

GRENADA

RESCUE MISSION ANNIVERSARY COMMEMORATED

FL261545 Bridgetown CANA in English 1813 GMT 25 Oct 85

[By George Worme]

[Text] St Georges, Grenada, Oct 25, CANA -- Grenadians today offered prayers for national prosperity on the second anniversary of the U.S.-led rescue mission and paid tribute to the 19 American servicemen killed during the operation to free the island from hardline leftist rule. The main highlights of the day, a public holiday, were an ecumenical service at the Roman Catholic cathedral here and a wreath laying ceremony at a memorial for the fallen American soldiers.

The landing of American and Caribbean forces here two years ago followed the brutal assassination of leftist Prime Minister Maurice Bishop in a military coup that climaxed a fierce leadership struggle among hardliners and moderates within the then ruling New Jewel Movement (NJM). A population, terrified by the strife and hemmed in by a four-day round the clock curfew immediately after the coup, welcomed the American and Caribbean forces as their liberators.

In a radio address last night, Acting Prime Minister Ben Jones extended a hand of friendship to the former leftist leaders but made it clear government would tolerate no trouble from them.

By their overwhelming support for the Centrist New National Party in last December's elections, Grenadians showed a preference for democracy to revolution and government would ensure democracy stays intact, he said. The New National Party government would enforce the law and will ensure that the revolution, which the initiators themselves destroyed and buried, would remain forever in its grave, Jones said.

Jones said Grenada owed a great debt of gratitude to U.S. President Ronald Reagan, the leaders of Jamaica, Barbados, and the Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS), and others who played a pivotal role in mounting the rescue mission. We cannot repay that debt in a material way, but we believe that a prayer that God will continue to bless America and its people will be acceptable as an adequate and appropriate substitute, he said.

On behalf of the virtually defunct NJM, central committee member Ian St Bernard issued a statement today calling for a free and fair trial of the 19 former military and political figures accused of the murder of Bishop and 10 associates. The NJM is confident that the truth of the October 19 tragedy -- resulting in the death of party leader Maurice Bishop, and others -- would one day be known, St Bernard said.

The 19 defendants in the Bishop murder case, including former Deputy Prime Minister Bernard Coard and leader of the short-live military regime, General Hudson Austin, are in jail awaiting trial which has been bogged down with a series of delays.

The business community, in a statement on the anniversary, urged Grenadians to observe the day of their liberation from tyranny and oppression as one of commemoration and thanksgiving for the gift of democracy which was bestowed upon us. We give thanks too, to those who gave their lives to ensure our liberty, and pray that their sacrifices will serve to make us ever vigilant and protectful of our democratic freedom, said the Grenada Chamber of Industry and Commerce.

STONES THROWN AT NNP MEETINGS, MINISTERS INJURED

FL261623 Bridgetown CANA in English 1610 GMT 26 Oct 85

[Text] St Georges, Grenada, Oct 26, CANA -- Two government ministers were among three persons injured last night when stone throwing disrupted a public meeting of the ruling New National Party (NNP), to commemorate the second anniversary of the U.S.-led intervention in Grenada. An eyewitness said Education Minister George McGuire was struck in the chest but received no serious injury, while Felix Alexander, the junior finance minister, was cut on the knee during the incident in the town of Grenville, 20 miles north east of St Georges.

I saw another man holding his head but I honestly can't tell you how serious was the wound he got in his head, the government official said. The eyewitness said it appeared that the stones were thrown from the back of the 800 strong crowd from the vicinity of a nearby building. The incident, the first of its kind since the NNP took office in general elections last December, occurred as Acting Prime Minister Ben Jones was addressing the crowd. It brought the meeting to an abrupt end. A police spokesman said two men were arrested, but not in connection with the stone throwing incident. One has been charged with disorderly behaviour and the other with brandishing a knife during the meeting.

U.S. and Caribbean forces landed on Grenada two years ago [words indistinct] a hardline Marxist regime that after murdering moderate leftwing Prime Minister Maurice Bishop in a military coup.

Jones had told the crowd earlier that opponents were using the seven-week absence of Prime Minister Herbert Blaize in an attempt to destabilise the country by spreading false rumours about Blaize's health. One of the reasons for Blaize's absence was to undergo medical treatment at a Washington hospital. Jones said the rumours were to the effect that Blaize was suffering from cancer and would soon die. Jones said while it is true that the prime minister has not been well and was in the hospital for five weeks, he was still able to look after official business in the United States capital.

Blaize is expected home tomorrow in time to greet Britain's Queen Elizabeth who will make an official visit here next week. Blaize also attended the Commonwealth summit in the Bahamas during his absence from here and addressed a rally in Washington yesterday to commemorate the anniversary of the American intervention here.

JAMAICA

MANLEY CALLS FOR RESIGNATION OF SEAGA GOVERNMENT

FL251940 Bridgetown CANA in English 1924 GMT 25 Oct 85

[Text] Kingston, Jamaica, Oct 25, CANA -- Leader of the opposition Peoples National Party (PNP), Michael Manley, has called for the resignation of the Seaga government after the Jamaica dollar plummeted to a new low of 6.40 dollars to the U.S. dollar yesterday.

The former prime minister, addressing supporters at the party's monthly people's forum in the north coast town of Ocho Rios, also called for an end to the madness of auctioning the Jamaica dollar -- the system by which the rate of exchange is set.

Referring to a call earlier this week by PNP chairman P.J. Patterson for the reassigning of the finance portfolio held by Prime Minister Edward Seaga, Manley said: What Jamaica needs is that the government resign. Watch what is going to happen again to basic food prices, Manley said in relation to the latest drop in the value of the Jamaica dollar. Watch what is going to be faced in the matter of the price of gasoline. Watch what is coming, I say no more than that, but we are heading for trouble and every ounce of that trouble is going to break on your innocent heads.

Manley said the currency auction system was madness and, as a mark of protest, his party would stage a demonstration next Thursday while one of the twice weekly auctions is taking place at the Bank of Jamaica. He also said the PNP, as part of its campaign for the calling of elections, would hold a mass meeting here next Wednesday, October 30. The party says the government's five-year mandate, received at the October 30, 1980 elections, expires on that date. The PNP regards as bogus and illegitimate the snap elections of December 1983, which it did not contest because the poll was held on an outdated voters list.

Yesterday's decline in the Jamaica dollar was the fifteenth successive one to take place at the auctions at which businessmen and others needing large sums of foreign exchange bid for what is available to the Central Bank and thus set the rate of transactions for the Jamaica dollar. At yesterday's auction, as has been the case since September, demand was far in excess of supply. Bids amounted to US 9.7 million dollars against the available supply of US 4.2 million dollars in the pool. The rate of exchange up to yesterday was J6.27 dollars to one U.S. dollar, and the loss of 13 cents represents the biggest drop in the Jamaica dollar so far this year.

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

SOVIET WORKER'S UNION OFFICIAL DENIED ENTRY

FL261350 Bridgetown CANA in English 2226 GMT 24 Oct 85

[Text] Port-of-Spain, Oct 24, CANA-REUTER -- Trinidad and Tobago has denied entry to a Soviet labour official who arrived here Monday for talks with militant trade union leaders, immigration officials said today. Valery Shahanalov, head of the international department of the State Institutions Worker's Union in Moscow was refused entry when he arrived at Piarco International Airport from Jamaica without a diplomatic passport or visa, they said. Shahanalov was met by two executive members of the left-wing Oilfield Workers' Trade Union (OWTU) and immediately whisked away by national security officials, while government considered his application. The Russian official was held overnight at an airport hotel before being sent back to Jamaica on Tuesday morning, the officials said.

He arrived shortly before the moderate Trinidad and Tobago Labor Congress (TTLC) and the left-wing Council of Progressive Trade Unions (CPTU) jointly called for a one-day general strike to protest the government's economic policies and its handling of several industrial disputes. The stoppage was due to take place today, but virtually all civil servants and workers in the vital oil industry turned up for work as usual.

BOUTERSE DEPLORES INTERVENTIONISM IN UN SPEECH

PA260237 New York United Nations Television in English 1606 GMT 22 Oct 85

[Speech by Lieutenant Colonel Desire Bouterse, head of government of the Republic of Suriname, to the United Nations General Assembly in New York -- live]

[Text] Mr President, on the occasion of the commemoration of the 40th anniversary of the United Nations it is a privilege for me to address the General Assembly and to see you presiding over this important meeting. Your outstanding personal qualities and diplomatic experience in an increasingly troubled and rapidly changing world will prove to be a valuable asset in assuring the success of this meeting.

Forty years ago, the founding of the United Nations reflected optimism, faith, and wisdom of mankind, and the willingness of the founding nations to create a new and just system of international relations. It was the desire for peace that gave birth to this organization, as world conscience had become deeply disturbed after two world wars in which more than 80 million people had perished.

Mr President, unfortunately our contemporary world is dominated by problems of development and by tense economic relations, resulting in virtually irresolvable financial and monetary problems. Economic and political entanglements are increasingly met with military responses which culminate in a seriously uncontrolled arms race. We should by now realize that solutions can only be found in a concerted effort of all the nations represented here today. In the past 40 years, the United Nations did not attain the objectives as formulated in 1945. Nevertheless, the meaningful role played by our organization in international affairs cannot be denied. During the historic process of decolonization in Africa, Asia, Latin America, and the Caribbean, this world body fulfilled an important task by rendering firm support to those people who are struggling to gain control over their own destiny.

We cannot accept the short-sighted, individualistic attitude of private states which only emphasize the shortcomings of the United Nations in an attempt to weaken multilateralism. In the conditions of dependency, bilateralism can easily be employed as an instrument to consolidate unequal relations by exerting pressures and even using blackmail to the detriment of the weaker states. Multilateral relations which provide an opportunity for dialogue and negotiations are urgently needed especially in times of crisis and growing tension. There is an attitude of certain states to marginalize themselves from global responsibilities. We deplore the tendency to withdraw from some of the vitally important international organizations such as the UNESCO and the neglect of the rulings of the International Court of Justice.

Mr President, 40 years have elapsed but new world realities are not yet reflected in our organization. In order to meet the objectives set by contemporary developments it is critical that steps be taken within the United Nations system to restructure this world forum. Although the membership of the United Nations has more than tripled there is still the right to veto, which gave five states the possibility to make decisions on behalf of the rest of the world without their expressive consent. Their privileged position has often been used contrary to the interests of the Third World countries. The restructuring of the United Nations is long overdue because we cannot remain passive and allow this organization to experience the same dreadful fate as its predecessor, the League of Nations. We are of the opinion that a general assembly should be given greater power and influence in maintaining peace and security. With regards to the Security Council, we support the proposal submitted by the Secretary General in his report on the organization to the General Assembly of 1985.

This decisive instrument for peaceful negotiations must not be degraded to a battleground for political dispute or ideological controversy. Under those circumstances, matters of peace and security must have priority over bilateral, individual interests or futile differences. We shall endorse any proposal aimed at restructuring and streamlining this organization to bring it in line with present world realities. Let us seek consensus to make the adjustment necessary to maintain and strengthen the United Nations as the principal instrument for the peaceful settlement of disputes. Given the rapidly increasing power of modern armaments, mankind would not survive another world confrontation.

Mr President, we all agree that contemporary international relations are hardly a reflection of the founding principles and purposes of the United Nations. Nonintervention and noninterference in the internal affairs of states and respect for national sovereignty are basic principles of the United Nations. Nevertheless, sovereign nations are still openly being invaded by regular military forces or armies of soliders of fortune, trained, financed, and equipped from outside. We therefore deplore that the legitimate aspirations in Central America for social equality, for political and economic independence and, above all, for human dignity are still completely neglected and at times even bloodily suppressed. Legal pretexts are used to justify actions of legions of mercenaries originating from former dictatorial and oppressive regimes attempting to regain power at the expense of the people.

The Charter of the United Nations is constantly violated. My government wholeheartedly endorses the serious attempts of the Contadora Group to mediate and in order to reach negotiated, peaceful solutions in the region. The four Contadora countries fulfill an important task in the hemisphere, and are a living proof that this region can solve its own problems by peaceful means without any external interference. We are of the opinion that the work of the Contadora Group is a genuine regional initiative and the only viable option for relief of tension in Central Amerca. We therefore fully support the efforts of the Contadora Group and welcome the Lima Support Group which reflects the growing unity in the region. Integration and unity of Latin America and the Caribbean are indispensable to arrive at solutions to the difficult, almost insurmountable problems of our region.

Mr President, the Republic of Suriname identifies itself with all its brother nations in the world which in the struggle for national liberation are fighting against military action and economic coercion. We deplore any violation of a treaty agreed upon voluntarily in particular when employed as means to economic coercion.

Mr President, we speak from experience. On this 40th anniversary of the United Nations we still cannot welcome in our midst a free South Africa liberated from apartheid. The world community should no longer merely condemn what has already been qualified by the United Nations as a crime against humanity. The time has come to take effective action to eradicate apartheid from the African continent. Every basic principle embodied in this Charter of the United Nations is consistently violated by the apartheid regime. Therefore eradication of this racist regime is the best case for this organization which is criticized by some members for its ineffectiveness. Let us stand in unity to prove that we can fulfill and implement the principles we have agreed upon and meet our responsibilities and moral obligations toward the peoples of southern Africa now. [applause]

Mr President, the world economic crisis which we are experiencing particularly undermines the economies of the Third World. The developing nations with their vulnerable economic systems have a small margin of safety. We are the first victims and the last recovered. Growth rates are continuously declining. This poses a serious threat to the social and political stability in the developing countries of Latin America, a continent virtually endowed with natural and human resources which is still underdeveloped, and of which the majority of people remain underprivileged.

The advanced countries should demonstrate a sense of realism and understand that era in which they could raise their standards of living at the expense of others have passed and gone. We should finally accept the challenge of our collective responsibility and enter into a constructive dialogue to establish a new international economic order.

Mr President, the global problems of internal debt, external debt have reached menace proportions. Could anyone expect us to repay these loans when that would result in sustained poverty, unemployment, and recession. The debt problem which is further characterized by a net flow of capital flow [as heard] from the developing nations to the rich North is a mere continuation of a despicable system instituted during colonial days. We of the South are forced to sacrifice our economic growth, because in order to repay our debt exports had to be increased and imports curtailed. North-South relations will be determined for decades to come by the manner in which the creditor countries will handle the current debt crisis.

Mr President, we are witnessing an unabated arms race and an imminent threat of destruction by a growing arsenal of nuclear weapons. The probable intensification of the arms race assumes even more dangerous proportions considering the growing tendency to resort to the use of force rather than dialogue and peaceful settlement of disputes. In dealing with these threats we are not only considering moral issues but indeed the very survival of mankind. On this 40th anniversary of the United Nations, 40 years after the first nuclear bomb took the lives of thousands of innocent people, I call upon the member states to finally opt for a workable system of arms control and the immediate reduction of the existing arsenal of nuclear arms, the prohibition of the testing and elimination of nuclear weapons. [applause]

Forty years after the founding of the United Nations my country will celebrate the 10th anniversary of its independence next month. On this occasion, the Republic of Suriname reaffirms its commitment to the Charter of the United Nations. It is the view of my government that our organization, and the principles it stands for, must be strengthened and maintained since the United Nations is an important institution in defense of the sovereignty, territorial integrity, and independence of all states.

Mr President, we are grateful for the efforts of the secretary general of the United Nations and the president of the General Assembly for the valuable contribution to the success and achievements of the organization of states, in the pursuit of the maintenance of peace and security in the world. It will depend on the states gathered here, rather or not, the proclamation of 1986 as the International Year of Peace will make a substantial contribution to realize these goals.

Thank you, Mr President. [applause]